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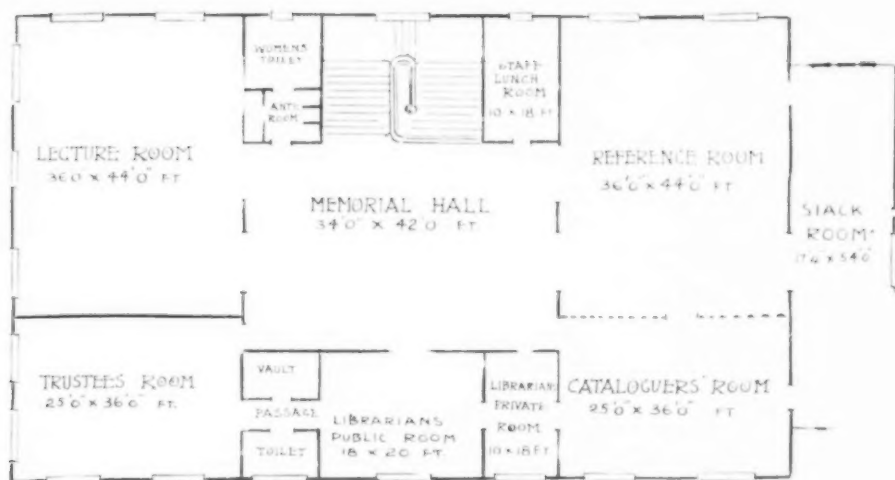
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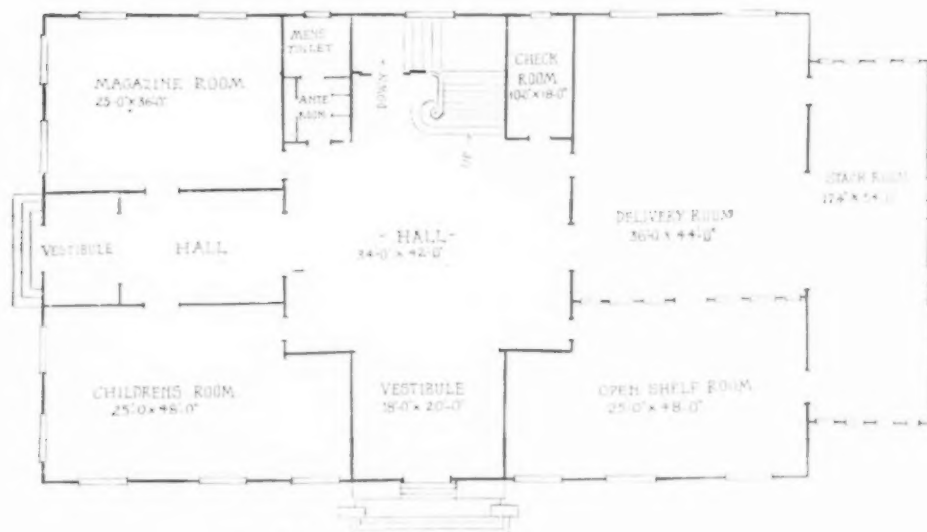
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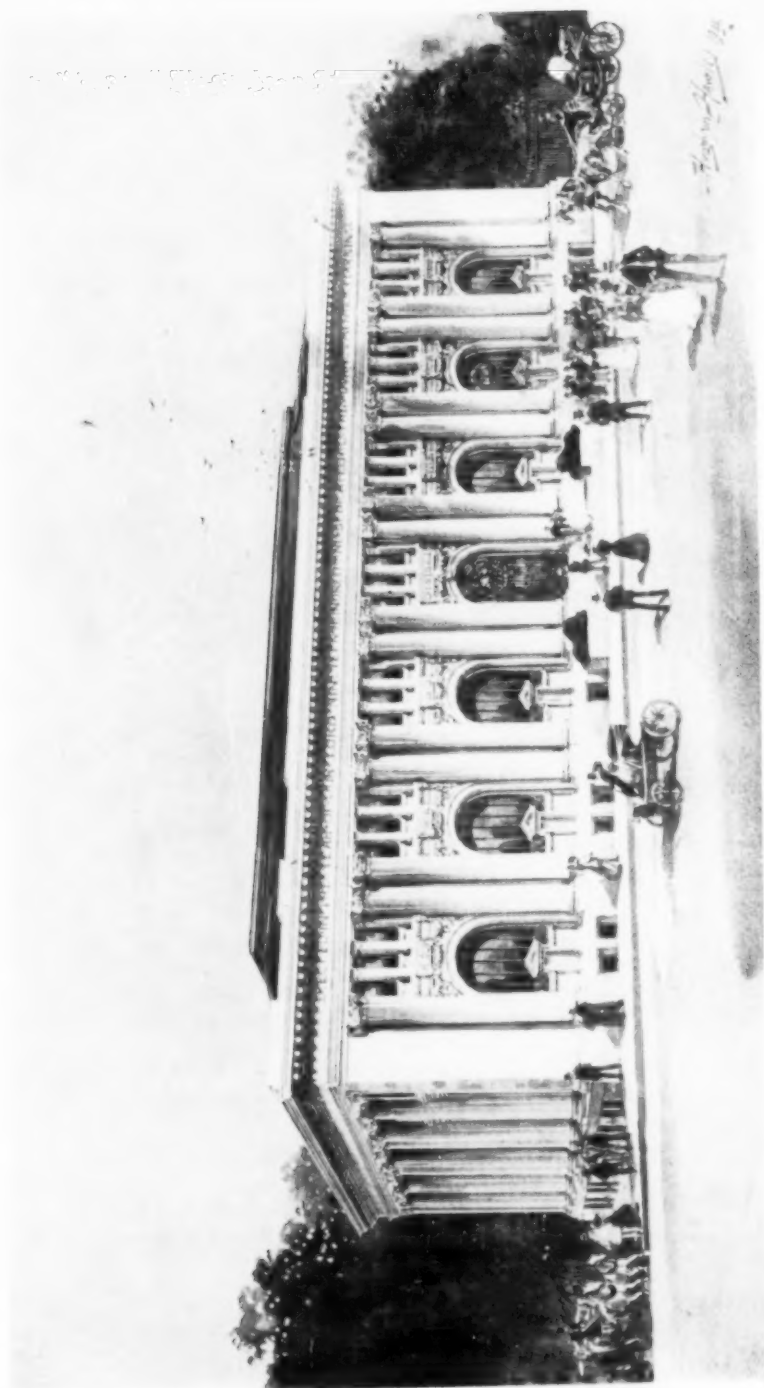
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 25.

FEBRUARY, 1900

No. 2

CONFERENCE plans are now afoot again, and a recent visit of the secretary of the American Library Association to Montreal brings assurance that the annual meeting of 1900 will rank with the best of those that have gone before. Definite announcements are not yet made, but the preliminary plans outlined elsewhere give promise of interest and freshness in the program and of the most cordial and hospitable of welcomes from the Canadian brethren. The time limitation of business sessions to two hours and a half, adopted at the Atlanta conference, will again be followed, having proved its advantages in permitting more unwearied and therefore more alert attention during the business routine, and in meeting the general desire for more time between sessions. A new departure has been made in arranging the meeting so that the working days will be broken by a Sunday, to be devoted to rest or to individual sightseeing — for which Montreal offers so much of historic significance. In its travel features the conference should abound in interest and beauty. In addition to the historic institutions and scenes of Montreal and its vicinity, there will be a post-conference trip down the St. Lawrence and up the Saguenay, with visits to Quebec and Tadoussac, and it is possible that travel parties to and from the conference may be arranged, to include special features. Among the topics assigned for consideration at the meeting, library work with children and questions of administration affecting trustees and librarians are to have special representation; an interesting feature will be a session devoted to the libraries and literature of Canada, and the specialization provided for by the various sections will be extended, in novel form, by a proposed group of "round table" meetings devoted to specific questions in library practice. The store of pleasure and profit derived each year from these annual meetings is of value throughout all the months that follow; and it is not too soon to urge upon all library authorities the importance of having their own library a sharer in this common fund of help and inspiration.

THE draft of the proposed public documents bill, amending the act of 1895, is printed in full

elsewhere, and should receive the careful attention of librarians, particularly of the depository libraries, who should write immediately to their Senators and Representatives in support of the bill, which is evidently a step in the right direction, toward the ideal of a public documents system as set forth in the report at the San Francisco conference of the A. L. A. It is understood to have been prepared as the result of careful attention from a committee appointed by the Public Printer from his department, including the Superintendent of Documents, and embodies many of the features included in the previous bill prepared through the missionary efforts of Dr. Ames and Mr. Crandall. What librarians most want in such a bill is a method of prompt supply, which will bring to the depositories all government publications of general interest promptly on their issue, so that they may be of current usefulness instead of historic value, as now. This should be accomplished, in some measure, by separating the department reports from the sheep set of Congressional documents, as is proposed by the bill, binding the set of each department in a distinctive color of cloth, and issuing them without the present delay in completing Congressional sets.

AMONG salient features of the bill, the "usual number" is extended to cover the actual number of depositories, considerably increased of late years, and a few over-copies for the use of the Superintendent of Documents; copies of documents not required by Congressmen are to be delivered to the Superintendent of Documents, bound, so that they may be utilized for the public; the Public Printer is authorized to print, on the requisition of the Superintendent of Documents, 500 copies additional of documents for which there is public demand; and there are other features of importance. A consolidated index, bi-yearly, is provided for, to contain the documents of an entire Congress and of the corresponding two fiscal years of the departments. While the bill does not accomplish everything that might be desired, perhaps as much is undertaken as can be obtained under present circumstances, and the principle of the bill should certainly have the support of the library profession.

IN view of the fact that many of the early government publications are not only absent from the files where they should be in Washington, but are in some cases unique copies in the possession of individual libraries, and that many of them are not even cataloged in Poore, it is suggested that it would be well for the government to provide a reprint of the earlier documents up to the 15th Congress, from which Congress sets are in existence or easily to be had. While many of these documents are reprinted in the American State Papers, many are not so included, although of considerable historical value, and the proposal is at least worthy of investigation by the Congressional committee on printing, or by other authority. Of course, the burning of the capitol in 1814 made many of the earlier documents extremely rare, and their loss should ultimately be in some way made good. It is true that there would be many documents scarcely worth reprinting, and the proposal might, on investigation, be narrowed to a reprint of selected documents.

THE proposed library post bill is printed elsewhere and seems to have the general support of the library profession, although there is much diversity of opinion regarding it. There is a general feeling that libraries as disseminators of literature are entitled to be ranked with newspapers, as to postal facilities, and that the quality of the literature which they supply is certainly better than the average supplied by the newspaper press, particularly when the "yellow journals" are counted in. The original plan for a library post included many details which provoked severe criticism, but the present bill has the merit of extreme simplicity. The A. L. A. has already put itself on record, through the appointment of a committee at the Atlanta conference, in favor of the principle of the measure; on the other hand, at the recent meeting of the New York Library Club the trend of argument was rather against than for the bill, partly because of the existing postal deficit, the one cent rate being far below actual cost; partly on the ground that large central libraries would under a postal system of distributing books be called upon to do more than their share of the work, and that the growth of local libraries, now stimulated by making the travelling library a nucleus, might be seriously checked.

Communications.

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS.

WE are having very many requests for this year's report of the Librarian of Congress. The edition printed was but a limited one; a large part of it is taken up by the regular exchanges of the library, and we are obliged at present to limit closely the distribution of other copies. Considering the accessibility of the report, we must give preference to institutions as against individuals, and within any particular city or district to the institutions with which we are in particular relation, or in which the report may seem to render most useful service.

I ask you to give publicity to this statement because I mean it in deprecation of our failure to respond to the very large number of requests that come to us beyond those that we can meet.

The report is so brief, and contains so little except the mere statistics which you have quoted and which are accessible in other forms, that no doubt a misapprehension accounts for the number of requests that have come; an impression that it contains a general and interesting discussion of the library and its future.

HERBERT PUTNAM.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, {
Washington, D. C. }

THE CLASSIFICATION PROBLEM.

THE admirable skit on classification in the January LIBRARY JOURNAL suggests the serious reflection that the classification problem belongs not to the librarian, but to the professional bibliographer. Thus the divisions and proper form of entry in chemistry should follow say Bolton's "Bibliography of chemistry"; in classics, the "Jahresbericht für altertumswissenschaft"; in psychology, the "Psychological index," etc. This seems to me the only rational method, and would it not be extremely useful if the Library Association should recommend a series of standard bibliographies for general adoption, and should keep librarians informed of the progress of classification?

H. M. STANLEY.

LAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, {
Lake Forest, Ill. }

CARNEGIE GIFT TO ERIE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

PERMIT me to call attention to an omission in the list of Mr. Carnegie's gifts, published in the January number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The first annual report of this library mentions the gift which Mr. Carnegie made to us in February, 1899. In his letter expressing his regret at being unable to attend the dedicatory exercises on Feb. 16 Mr. Carnegie said, "... probably the best speech I can make is to subscribe myself very truly yours to the extent of five thousand dollars, enclosed." Mr. Carnegie had previously (in 1898) given the library \$1000, stipulating only that it should be spent for books.

CHAS. E. WRIGHT, Librarian.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
Erie, Pa. }

WHAT SHOULD LIBRARIANS READ?

BY A. E. BOSTWICK, W. A. BARDWELL, AND WILBERFORCE EAMES.

IT is astonishing how the choice of an auxiliary verb has broadened out this question. Had it been "What *can* librarians read" we might have been hampered in answering it by base considerations of time and space, of mental fatigue, and of the relative importance of rival duties; but fortunately the little word "should" emancipates us from all such and places us at once on the lofty plane of what our friends, the philosophers, call the categorical imperative. If we so wish, we can declare that the librarian should be familiar with all literature—should take in with the eye and store away in the brain all that has been written since the mythical Cadmus first scratched down his alphabet up to the latest sensational "juvenile" fresh from the pen of an Adams or a Fosdick. The fact that not one, but many, lifetimes would be required does not enter into the discussion. The "should," and not the "can," is our watch-word.

Far-fetched as this may seem, it is, nevertheless, the keynote of the subject. Stern logic tells us that no book should find a place on the shelves of a library unless the librarian is familiar with what it contains. Still sterner experience warns us that the sole reliable means of attaining to such knowledge is by reading the book. The conclusion is that the librarian should read, from cover to cover, everything that enters the library before placing it on the shelves. This seems to be decidedly what he "should" do, and were we to limit ourselves strictly to the question, its discussion might come to a sudden end.

But I am tempted to say a little about what the librarian *can* read, about the very small approximation that he can make to an ideal knowledge of what comes under his charge. Not being able to read everything, he must perforce fall back on the opinions of others. In the case of well-known and standard works this is comparatively easy, but in the case of current literature, and especially current fiction, the inadequacy of the means at our disposal must constantly be apparent. To be sure, a large and continually increasing band of reviewers is telling us in print of the works that unceasingly fall from the press; and these do their work conscientiously enough; but the trouble lies in the fact that they are work-

ing toward many different ends and performing their tasks in many different ways, and about the only end and the only way not included in their list are those that appeal to the librarian. In other words, the book review is written for the information of the student, or the critic, or the ordinary reader, not for the librarian of the large public library. What he wants most to know is usually not told therein, and when it is, he must search diligently before he finds it.

Even from a literary standpoint it must be acknowledged that the average book review leaves much to be desired. It conforms in general to one of several types. Often it is merely a disquisition on the general topic of which the book treats, the object being to display the writer's learning. In such a review the book itself is often scarcely mentioned. No profane critic would dare to lay his hands on this variety of review, for the great English quarterlies have made it sacred and it flourishes from one end of literary Europe to another. Yet surely it is hardly what the librarian wants to aid him in his selection of books.

In another prevalent form of review the writer strives to give the reader a correct idea of what the book contains, without attempting criticism, either by means of copious extracts or by an abstract. This is better, yet no one can be sure that the reviewer is honest, and if he is not this method is eminently fitted for giving the unwary reader a totally false impression.

Another system is to pick out, here and there, such inaccuracies, misstatements, and errors as the reviewer can find, and correct them with an air of superior knowledge, closing with the remark that where there is so much that is good it may be considered hypercritical, etc., etc.—you all know the formula.

Finally we come to genuine criticism, which many reviewers essay and many pretend to employ, while few actually practise it. Some under its cloak indulge in indiscriminate praise or in mean depreciation; others mingle the two judiciously under the impression that they are impartial; few, indeed, give in a compact form an idea of what the book contains and then lay before the reader a calm, just, and well-balanced opinion of its merits. Those who do,

attain the goal at which all honest literary criticism should aim; but even these do not satisfy the librarian.

The librarian wants to know whether or not he shall buy the book in question for his library. To this end he wishes, in particular, the following pieces of information, besides the author's and publisher's names, the size, the price, etc., which he gets from bad reviews as well as from good ones. He wants to know:

1st. — For what class of readers the book is adapted.

2d. — Whether it is so written that among that class it will be eagerly sought for, or whether only those who are particularly interested in its subject will read it.

3d. — Whether it contains anything that would make it objectionable, either generally, as indecency, or to any class of readers, as political or religious aspersions; and whether such matter would render the book unavailable for library purposes.

4th. — What the literary merits of the book are; whether it is trash, or merely tolerable, or highly praiseworthy.

5th. — How much reliance can be placed on its facts.

Some such information as this we obtain by reading a book ourselves; it is not too much to ask that it be contained in a brief review.

Finally, we must know whose opinions the review contains. I know that signed reviews are now generally condemned by literary folk, and that their chief upholder in England has now, in its reorganized form, omitted them; but from a library point of view it seems to me they are the only ones of much worth. And not only this, but the signature must be that of some one whose judgment we value. When Mr. Stedman or Mr. Gosse assures us of the literary value of a work we know what to think, but when the assurance comes from John Doe or Richard Roe it might as well have no signature at all.

When this has been said, it is, of course, equivalent to saying that the reviews that are to be of value to librarians must be written by librarians.

If we could have, once a week or once a month, a periodical in which the books of that week or month should be treated briefly from the librarian's standpoint in signed reviews by well-known librarians, I think I run no risk in saying that we should then have the ideal literary paper for the librarian, and the best possi-

ble substitute, from his point of view, for the impossible thorough personal knowledge of every book that he takes into consideration for purchase.

I do not mean to say that no personal contact with his books is necessary. I believe that every book that comes into a library should pass through the librarian's hands, and should be looked at long enough to obtain at least a bowing acquaintance; but this is not reading, and hardly comes within the scope of this discussion.

A periodical such as I have described would, it seems to me, solve many library problems at one stroke. We have some feeble strivings toward it already — our lists of books, our discussions at library meetings, but the regular appearance of such a visitor at our libraries — a review of current literature *by librarians for librarians* would silently but emphatically answer the question we are now discussing — what should librarians read?

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,
Brooklyn Public Library.

It has been affirmed that "the librarian who reads is lost." The origin of this epigram is veiled in antiquity, but it means that the custodian of books cannot spend a great deal of his time in reading without neglecting his duty to his constituency.

A remark once made by the late Mr. Noyes, of the Brooklyn Library, that "a man should have finished his reading before becoming a librarian," would seem to imply that he agreed with the author of the maxim quoted. Is, then, the ox to be muzzled as he treads out the corn? Is the librarian to be debarred from reading? Perhaps it can be demonstrated that he must read to some extent or "be lost." A reader asked one day if the librarian had read a certain book "in his official capacity." Evidently in this instance the librarian was supposed to read sufficiently to ascertain what books could be recommended for the reading of others. The librarian's reading might be divided into two classes — the official and the unofficial, that which is essential and that which is not so necessary, but yet is proper if time permits.

We all know what the "official" or professional reading is. One must become familiar with the publications of the time in order to be ready to answer inquiries about them. This implies a persistent, daily study of book-lists and circulars, of advertisements and notices of

new books. The librarian has only to be absent a week or two to realize how rapidly this literature accumulates if not sorted and sifted each day as it arrives.

The examination of reviews and critiques is also instructive and desirable so far as time can be spared for it. The *Publishers' Weekly*, the *Bookman*, the *Review of Reviews*, contain much that is useful, and repay one for a little time spent in browsing upon them. The LIBRARY JOURNAL is helpful reading either in or out of business hours. In cataloging and classing books one requires scraps of information regarding their contents which, if the memory is retentive, will be found useful in directing others to the stores of knowledge they contain.

All these things increase one's knowledge of bibliography, but can scarcely be said to give a thorough acquaintance with literature. Now, aside from this professional reading or study, can time be found to become familiar with the contents of some of the books of which one knows little beyond the author, title, and publisher? Experience in library work demonstrates that the more comprehensive our knowledge of the contents of books the happier and pleasanter will be our relations with readers. Every additional book we read increases our fund of information regarding the contents of our collection, and helps us to supply intelligently the wants of inquirers. This is especially true in reference work, where the memory of the librarian or of his assistants is useful in suggesting works that apply to subjects of study.

It is my own belief, after 30 years' experience in library work, that no librarian or assistant who has a proper enthusiasm for his work can find much time for reading, other than the professional reading mentioned, during business hours. There is too much to do. The details of administration require the constant attention of all those employed, and such acquaintance with literature as they may gain during working hours can be only incidentally acquired in their contact with the books they care for and supply for the use of patrons. But there is a way by which much reading may be accomplished and a wide acquaintance with literature gained. It can be done by the systematic utilization of the moments left over from other occupations outside of business hours. There is a world of literature awaiting those who have formed the reading habit. One dislikes to go through life knowing nothing of the histories of our own and other countries or the

delightful books of travel in various parts of the world. We can cultivate acquaintance with the standard writers of fiction—Thackeray, Dickens, Hawthorne. We may familiarize ourselves with the descriptions of Scott, the sunshiny humor of Irving, the fascinating narrative of Parkman. We should know enough of authors and the contents of their books to treat them appreciatively, and the mere reading of book-lists, or auction catalogs, or reviews will hardly give the intimate acquaintance that is in many cases to be desired.

There are many odds and ends of time which, if utilized, will enable one to accomplish a great deal of reading. If one reads on the way to and from lunch it will be a matter of surprise; if one keeps account of them, how many books can be read in the course of a year. Then there is the half-hour or hour before retiring, which may often be devoted to a standard author. And there is the advantage connected with reading in this manner that what is read is more apt to be remembered than when several hours are given to it continuously. It then gets tiresome, for the reader becomes fatiguedly. Also, there is the benefit of a change of thought. When one drops work and leaves for home an interesting book read on the way takes the attention from business and turns thought into other channels, leaving the mind refreshed when work is again resumed. If one resides a mile or two from his daily work, 20 pages or more can be read during the trip home and back, and if this is habitual it is wonderful in how few days a book of several hundred pages can be read enjoyably and profitably. The ordinary trip in the trolley car is not particularly delightful unless one meets a friend to talk with; but with a book for companionship the time seems short. Cases have been known of pedestrians who read and cover nearly as much ground while reading as when walking without a book, thus acquiring information and getting exercise at the same time. This is, perhaps, hardly to be recommended unless the reader is sure-footed and can avoid vehicles and dodge other pedestrians instinctively.

But sufficient has been said to argue that the librarian should read and can do so if he will. There are enough scraps of time left over from his busy life which, if used to the best advantage, will afford him a knowledge of the contents of some of the books he catalogs and supplies for the enlightenment of others.

W. A. BARDWELL, *Brooklyn Library.*

THE question of what a librarian should read, and how he should read, will of course be determined by circumstances, and it will depend largely on the character of his work and on the time at his disposal. With many of the profession I dare say that it is hard to get time to read at all; but some reading has to be done, or the librarian will get out of date and behind the times. The problem is how to do it, and how to do it to the best advantage. The kind of reading best adapted to each librarian depends on the character of the library under his care. From the standpoint of the general and circulating library, we see that it is of the first importance to keep one's self well informed by reading of the progress of science, of the best and most economical methods of work, of new and labor-saving devices, and of the best ways to make the library of the most use to the most people. And this reading should be supplemented by visiting other libraries and inspecting their methods.

It is very useful for a librarian to know something of everything, but it is more important to know besides everything of something. In a large library it is now considered desirable to specialize the departments, and to have some one in each case who knows everything of history, everything of science, everything of art, and everything of literature; in short, to divide the special lines of reading among the heads of departments, so that each one's knowledge will practically supplement and not duplicate that of the others. We will take American history, for example, as it is a large subject in itself. The librarian of this department should read and make himself familiar with the many bibliographies and guides that have appeared. They require constant study, and checking, and supplementing, and bringing up to date. It is a big undertaking in itself to keep pace at the present day with the many new publications that seldom or never get into the regular book markets, like those of the historical societies, the histories of towns and counties, and the numerous genealogies or family histories, which are often printed merely for private circulation. Then the wants of the antiquarian and historian have to be provided for in the older class of publications on American history, and a very large group it is, covering 400 years from the time of Columbus to the present day, and in half a dozen languages. In order to understand this material and to know how to make it useful to others, the librarian

must get acquainted with it, he must read some of it, and he must read a good deal about it.

One more special subject may be referred to, simply to show what course of reading is sometimes required of a librarian, and it is a subject that does not trouble many librarians in this country. I refer to the incunabula, or books printed in the 15th century. They have their use, and they have to be cataloged. To do this properly the librarian should read on the subject sufficiently to inform himself of the practical details of the art of printing, of the literature relating to its discovery, of the general bibliographies of the 15th century books, of the special histories of printing in particular towns and by particular presses, of the biographies of early printers, and of any other helps there may be.

These are merely outlines, but they will indicate the kind of subjects that serve to shape a librarian's course of reading. He has no choice but to meet the requirements as they come, and to prepare himself for them in the best way he can, by judicious reading. He must know how to aid the student in many out-of-the-way branches of knowledge, in ancient as well as in modern times, and he should know how to do it fairly well. It is desirable, therefore, that his reading should include an outline of every subject in the various departments under his care, in whatever language they may be, and that he should know something of the literature and bibliography of each.

Whatever the subject may be, if the librarian reads with skill and with judgment he can make the books under his care all the more useful.

Another thing I wish to mention is the duty of librarians to their assistants in providing for them a course of reading and books that they may borrow and read at home. It seems to me that the neglect to perform this duty in any instance is an unwise policy. The library that has an intelligent staff of workers is certainly better prepared to serve the public.

It is one thing to know about books and it is another thing to know the books themselves. He is a fortunate librarian who knows both; but in such cases there is sometimes danger that the latter kind of knowledge may be overdone.

You are familiar with that paradoxical epigram, "The librarian who reads is lost." Its author was the Rev. Mark Pattison, of Lincoln College, Oxford, who died a dozen years ago, and it first appeared, I believe, on page 207 of

his well-known biography of Isaac Casaubon, the learned librarian of King Henry the 4th of France. The sentiment, it seems to me, is not rightly worded, and in its present form it is generally misapplied. It should rather be "The librarian who reads only for himself is lost." This I take to be the meaning intended,

for Casaubon neglected his duties as librarian in the pursuit of his own studies. Instead of Mr. Pattison's epigram I would therefore substitute the following: "The librarian is lost who does not read wisely."

WILHERFORCE EAMES,

Lenox Library.

THE OTHER SIDE OF "PATERNALISM."

By B. W. PENNOCK, *Free Public Library, New Bedford, Mass.*

WITH the contentions in the paper on "Paternalism," by Mr. Lindsay Swift, in regard to the management of libraries and the selection of books, probably no one familiar with library affairs will find fault. Indeed, almost any librarian could duplicate these experiences. Committees are about as successful in the selection of books and other details of administration with which they are constantly interfering as the average librarian would be in pleading a law case or doctoring a patient. Each committee-man thinks every book relating to a subject in which he is interested is an important one for the library to have, while all others are useless cumberers of the shelves and a waste of funds, and he will usually only consent to the purchase of such as he thinks necessary for a sort of sop to Cerberus. The result is that it is often difficult for the librarian to get books on subjects in which no member of the committee happens to be interested.

Mr. Swift's experiences with the school children, too, are, I suppose, the experiences of almost every other public librarian. Certainly my own labors with them are an exact parallel to his.

The poems of Longfellow and Whittier are so often asked for that I sometimes wonder whether the teachers in the schools have ever heard of the other and greater poets. And the lives of Washington and Lincoln are in almost constant demand, while the names of Alexander and Nelson and William of Orange are apparently never mentioned in the public school-room. Every day in term time these children come to me for help upon subjects to the information upon which they have not the "remotest clue"—in many cases they do not even know what the subjects mean, but have the words written down, and come to the library to learn something about them. And I am bound to confess to being in some doubt at times whether

I am supposed to be teaching school or managing a library.

That this is all very far from an ideal state of things must be freely admitted, but the whole of this matter is not to be seen at the first glance. By far the larger part of these children are not blessed with cultivated homes, and thus do not enter school with the predisposition to study and learning which children from more favorable conditions often have. Further, their stay in school is brief at best, and often more or less interrupted.

That the teachers are to blame for the ignorance of the children under their care, as Mr. Swift suggests, is probably true in some cases, but it certainly is not in all. Indeed, it seems to me that the teachers as a whole do about as well as they could be expected to do under the circumstances. And if the library can add something to the slender stock of learning which these children get, and, perchance, help them to a slight taste for books—even no greater books than the poems of Longfellow and the life of Lincoln—it is doing something to justify its existence, it is in some degree brightening and enlarging the lives of these future fathers and mothers of the land. And as a public librarian I am willing to do what I can to help them, even though I have to do some things which properly belong to the teachers in the schools.

In other words, it seems to me the province of the library to be of whatever service it can to the public as a whole—not to one class alone, but to all classes, to the child of the schools, to the ordinary reader, and to the scholar—if, perchance, the community is lucky enough to have one.

That is to say, the aim of the library is to benefit the community, to help it into a higher and better form of life and thought. And this means a great deal more than that the library

should be simply a distributing point for the products of the press. If it is to fulfil its mission, it must be also a sifting medium with meshes as fine as the best sentiment of the community will sustain it in being.

It may be a "solemn matter," as Mr. Swift says, "to load a child's mind with what you think it ought to learn," but it seems to me a much more solemn, not to say criminal, matter to turn him loose into the sea of literary slush which is poured forth in a constant stream from the novel press, without the guidance of some experienced person. We find it necessary to exercise care over our children in all other relations of life: their food, their clothing, their entertainment, their companions, etc.; why should we make an exception of their reading? We do not turn our children loose in the streets to pick up whatever companions chance may throw in their way. And any one who does so is thought to be guilty of criminal neglect. But experience has shown that evil companionship in books is as dangerous as evil companionship in the streets.

I do not know with what sort of children Mr. Swift may be familiar, but those I know have no divine instinct by which they are able to select what is wholesome out of the vast mass of literature, a large part of which is either worthless or positively bad. Most of us with college training and many years of literary experience and study find it difficult to select the good out of the weekly products of the press. And if men trained to do such work find it difficult, how can the ordinary person, and especially the child, be expected to do it successfully? Indeed, intelligent people are glad to avail themselves of the help the library can give them in selecting what it is worth while to read.

As everybody knows, the average child, especially the average boy, is sufficiently prone to coarseness and vulgarity in both language and conduct, and it seems hardly the part of wisdom to encourage the tendency by coarse and vulgar books. I entirely agree with the Sunday-school library committee which excluded some of Kipling's books. They were not only justified in doing it—they were in duty bound to do it. It seems to me a very mistaken notion, to say the least, that because a man has written some good things we are bound to accept everything he may choose to put forth without stopping to consider whether it is good or bad.

And what is true regarding books containing

profanity, cursing, and slang is doubly true of the pornographic novels, of which we have had such an abundance in the last few years. Books like "Trilby" and "Jude the obscure"—not to mention the thousands of those in the lower grades as regards their literary quality—free as they are for the most part from objectionable language, but containing most vile and insinuating suggestions, are far more destructive of moral sanity in the young and unlearned than the foolish vulgarity of "Chimmie Fadden" or the uncalled-for profanity of Kipling, bad as these are. Indeed, I almost think they are worse than the books of the "Tom Jones" style—they certainly do more harm, for they are read much more widely by the young and the untutored.

But unfortunately there are some who seem to have gotten the notion that books are "strong" in the degree that they are vulgar and indecent, and that books which are fit to be read are weak and wishy-washy. And the state of mind which objects to the gutter slang of Chimmie Fadden, or the companionship of prostitutes as presented by Zola, is characterized by Mr. Swift, if I have read him correctly, as "refined stupidity."

Now, if inability to see this matter according to Mr. Swift's dictum constitutes "refined stupidity," I shall have to accept the title, for I have labored hard, but unsuccessfully, to see why it is necessary for a man who would write a strong and healthy book to adopt the language of the Bowery or find his characters in the slums of Paris. Are the inhabitants of these dens of vice the only real people in the world, while the remainder of humanity is only a vain show? Is the only true human life capable of being depicted in books to be found in the gutters in the company of thieves and prostitutes, while decency is simply a matter of parade?

That human nature includes these lower strata, our jails and police systems testify; but we do not maintain these burdensome institutions because we delight in them and consider them an ornament to society, but rather because we must as a matter of protection. If these things are not delightful in themselves, why should they be so attractive in books? If an intelligent man should forsake a comfortable home in a decent street and go to live in the slums, unless for some philanthropic purpose, we should think him insane. Is not the appetite, then, for such scenes in books a depraved and undesirable one? It seems to me it is

wholly undesirable, even dangerous to the stability of society. Is there, then, any good reason why this savage tendency should be fostered at the public expense? Shall we deliberately make criminals and prostitutes, that we may fill our jails and homes for the fallen? For it seems to me this is the logical outcome of Mr. Swift's whole argument against what he calls "paternalism."

I have no letter to present from a wronged Russian deprived of his needed mental pabulum; but if the book Mr. Swift's Russian had so much trouble in getting was like those of which I have spoken, it would have been fortunate for the Russian if he had never been able to get it even in cipher. But the censorship of the Russian Government, for political reasons, is as far as the opposite poles from the care taken in this country to protect the young and inexperienced from the selfish greed of unscrupulous purveyors of lewd fiction, trading upon the baser instincts of the untrained. And why it is that any one should care to read coarse and indecent books, even when well written—though in most cases they are not—when there is such an abundance of good, healthful, inspiring books, more than any one can ever read, is something—well, I suppose some people may understand it, but I cannot. And I suppose it must be due to my "refined stupidity" that I cannot. In fact, I can see no more reason why a public institution founded for the public well-being should help on the increase of vice and crime by the free circulation of vile books, no matter how well written, than I can why the same institution should run a gin shop or a gambling den. It seems to me that Mr. Swift's theory would permit every particle of writing that can be called even fairly good from a purely literary point of view to be freely circulated, no matter how great may be its moral turpitude. And this is simply because there is a class in the community demanding such stuff. On this ground the public has no right to restrain any evil propensity for its own protection. It is only necessary to state the logical outcome of this sort of philosophy to see its absurdity. My own judgment in the matter is that libraries are not half careful enough of the kind of reading matter they put into the hands of their readers. In our own community a good many readers depend upon us not to put into their hands or the hands of their children coarse and indecent books.

MR. PUTNAM ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

In the *Atlantic Monthly* for February the first place is given to a condensed review of the record and conditions of "The Library of Congress," by Herbert Putnam, who indicates clearly and concisely the special directions in which development is needed to bring the library to its proper place as a national institution. His consideration of present conditions Mr. Putnam prefaces with an informing summary of the historic development of the collection. Its legislative history, he points out, "although not a brief, is a meagre one."

"It was established in the year that witnessed the removal of the capital to Washington; but from 1802, when the appointment of the librarian was vested in the President of the United States, to 1897, when the act was passed for the organization of the work in the new building, its constitution has remained practically unchanged.

"In August of 1814 the entire existing collection was destroyed by the British troops. The first 14 years, therefore, left no survival, and the birth of the present library as a collection must date from 1815, when the purchase of the library of ex-President Jefferson started it anew with 6700 volumes. Its history since is divided into a few main periods by events which have had an important influence.

"In 1851 a second fire—not, however, caused by the public enemy—destroyed all but 20,000 volumes of the then existing collection. \$75,000 was appropriated for its replenishment, and from that time on the growth has been uninterrupted. From 1846 to 1859 the library received a copy of all copyrighted publications. Discontinued in 1859, this privilege was revived in 1865, and five years later was enlarged by the law which transferred to the library the entire copyright business, and incidentally required both copies of the article copyrighted to be deposited therein.

"In 1866 came the agreement, authorized by Congress, which transferred to it the library of the Smithsonian Institution, with the stipulation that future acquisitions should follow. The transfer was not a gift. The books may be withdrawn on reimbursement of expense of binding and care; but until withdrawn they remain in effect an integral part of the library.

"The only other events affecting the growth of the collection which have depended upon legislation are two important purchases by special grant: that of the Peter Force collection in 1867, and that of the de Rochambeau in 1883. Each of these brought to the library material of inestimable value in which it was weak: the Force Americana, including original manuscripts, and also some incunabula; the de Rochambeau, manuscripts important to the study of the war of the Revolution.

"The gift, in 1882, of the Toner collection brought also some Americana, its most individual contribution consisting of the transcripts of writings of Washington, which Dr. Toner had prepared during a long series of years."

"A list of the influences at work in the development of the library and in the determination of its scope and character would not be complete, however, without mention of an influence most potent upon both—the appointment, in 1864, of Ainsworth R. Spofford as librarian. Down to 1815 the librarian had been but the Clerk of the House of Representatives for the time being. From 1815 until 1864 there had been only three appointees to the office, the last of whom served but for the three years ending 1864. With the appointment of Dr. Spofford, however, who had already served as an assistant during the incumbency of his predecessor in the librarianship, came the conception of a larger scope for the library. The means within his control were indeed small—for general purchases only \$5000 a year—but they were applied chiefly at auction sales, with consistent purpose and consistent thrift; while the range of purchase indicated a purpose, indeed, not merely implied, but under Dr. Spofford freely expressed, that the library (so called 'of Congress') was eventually to become a library truly national. . . .

"When Dr. Spofford took office in 1864 the library contained but 99,000 volumes. Within a decade these had grown to 293,000, and the space for further increase was wanting. Then began the agitation for more ample provision, for adaptation of other rooms in the capitol building, for a new wing—finally for a new building. Year after year went on in appeal, reference, discussion, report. Meanwhile the books accumulated in heaps upon the floors, in vaults, in closets, and in attics—the medley familiar to all who visited the library between 1875 and 1897. . . .

"The last 20 years of the library in the capitol were, however, years of administrative anguish. The attention of Congress was directed to the erection of a new building. From 1883 to 1896 there was no legislation whatever providing for special purchases, nor any looking to immediate improvement of administration or enlargement of service."

The establishment of the library in its magnificent building is briefly noted, and Mr. Putnam then proceeds to consider the questions:

"What is the Library of Congress? What is it to be? If a national library, how far has it advanced toward such a title? What have been its opportunities?"

A striking contrast is drawn between the development of the British Museum Library, through private and national munificence, and the insufficient aid extended to our own national library. The former received gifts valued at £400,000 between the years 1825 and 1835 alone, and has had since 1845 not less than £10,000 annually for the purchase of books, while in the Library of Congress, since the partial destruction of the collection in 1851, "the regular appropriations for the purchase of books have aggregated less than \$250,000, only one-half the sum expended by the British Museum during the ten years from 1845 to 1855 alone, when values in certain lines were, perhaps, no more than a third as great. In the

entire 100 years of its existence it has had but eight special grants for special purposes. The total amount of these has been less than \$165,000. One of them was for law books. Only three have exceeded \$10,000 in amount; the grant, in 1815, of \$23,950, for the purchase of the library of Thomas Jefferson (of which but 2000 volumes survived the fire of 1851); that of \$100,000 in 1867 for the purchase of the Force collection, and that of \$20,000 in 1883 for the purchase of the military papers, maps, and letter-books of the Count de Rochambeau. Excepting the Smithsonian collection—which, though an accession, was not a gift, but a deposit—and the Gardiner Greene Hubbard collection of engravings, not yet transferred, the Library of Congress has received, in the course of its entire history, but one eminent gift—that in 1882 of the Toner collection. In its entire history it has not received a single gift of money."

The present condition of the library is then reviewed, and the special points at which strengthening and development are required are touched upon. Its contents consist "nominally of 850,000 printed books and 250,000 pamphlets, 26,000 pieces of manuscript, 50,000 maps, 277,000 pieces of music, and over 70,000 prints," these totals including the law library, Smithsonian deposit, and a very large proportion of duplicates. A general rounding out and strengthening of classes is needed—in the distinctive divisions of public documents, jurisprudence, and Americana in which the library should take special eminence, and in the more general subjects of scientific literature, literature proper, and literary history—and there is necessity for generous increase in the appropriations for direct purchase of books.

Among the other needs of the library Mr. Putnam points out the importance of carrying through the reclassification begun in 1898 and now extended to the first of the 44 "chapters" according to which the collection is arranged, the necessity of complete catalogs for public and official use, and the need of providing for the establishment of order and shelf departments. A department of documents is also considered essential, as is "a well-equipped department of bibliography," and the lack of provision for a printing department in the library building and for a library bindery is noted. The use of the library is briefly touched upon, and the average issue of books to readers is given as "about 500 per day"—this being apparently an error, as the recent report of the Librarian of Congress for 1898-99 gives an average daily issue of 1090 volumes, with a maximum record of 2041.

The data presented is thus summarized: "The Library of Congress is not now, as a collection, an organic collection, even for the most particular service that it has to render; it is not yet classified, nor equipped with the mechanism necessary to its effective use; the present organization is but partial; and the resources have yet to be provided, not merely for proper development of the collection, but for the work of bringing the existing material into condition for effective service." It is this

work that Mr. Putnam's presentation of the subject is intended to aid. "The purpose of this article," he concludes, "is not to prophesy a future for the library, but to recall the significant incidents of its past, and to describe, as simply as may be, the existing conditions, an appreciation of which must precede any serviceable discussion of its future."

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS BILL.

THE following bill for the printing, binding, and distribution of public documents, amending the existing law of 1895, has been submitted by the Public Printer to the Joint Committee on Printing, and will, it is understood, be presented to Congress:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the act entitled "An Act providing for the public printing and binding and the distribution of public documents," approved January 12, 1895, be amended as follows:

Amend section 28 so as to read:

"SEC. 28. That there shall be advanced to the Public Printer from time to time, as the public service may require it, and under such rules as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, a sum of money not exceeding at any time the penalty of his official bond, to enable him to pay for work and material."

Amend section 42 so as to read:

"SEC. 42. That the Public Printer shall furnish to all applicants giving notice before the matter is put to press copies of bills, reports, and documents, said applicants paying in advance the cost of such printing with ten per centum added: *Provided*, That the printing of such work for private parties shall not interfere with the printing for the Government."

Amend section 54 so as to read:

"SEC. 54. That whenever any document or report shall be ordered printed by Congress, to which a Congressional number shall be assigned, such order to print shall signify the 'usual number' of copies for binding and distribution among those entitled to receive them. No greater number shall be printed unless ordered by either House or as provided by existing law. When a special number of a document or report is ordered printed, the usual number shall also be printed, unless already ordered. The usual number of such documents and reports shall be one thousand seven hundred copies, which shall be distributed as follows:

"OF THE HOUSE DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS, UNBOUND: To the Senate document room, one hundred and fifty copies; to the office of the Secretary of the Senate, ten copies; to the House document room, four hundred and twenty copies; to the Clerk's office of the House, twenty copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies.

"OF THE SENATE DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS, UNBOUND: To the Senate document room, two hundred and twenty copies; to the office of the

Secretary of the Senate, ten copies; to the House document room, three hundred and sixty copies; to the Clerk's office of the House, ten copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies.

"That of the number printed the Public Printer shall bind five hundred and ninety-eight copies, which shall be distributed as follows:

"OF THE HOUSE DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS, BOUND: To the Senate library, fifteen copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies, and fifty additional copies for foreign exchanges; to the House library, fifteen copies; to the superintendent of documents, five hundred and sixteen copies for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories.

"OF THE SENATE DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS, BOUND: To the Senate library, fifteen copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies, and fifty additional copies for foreign exchanges; to the House library, fifteen copies; to the superintendent of documents, five hundred and sixteen copies for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories.

"These documents shall be bound in full sheep, and in binding documents the Public Printer shall give precedence to those that are to be distributed to libraries and designated depositories. The remainder of said documents and reports shall be reserved by the Public Printer in unstitched form and shall be held subject to be bound, in the number provided by law, upon orders from the Vice-President, Senators, Representatives, Delegates, Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House, in such binding as they shall select, except full morocco or calf, and when not called for within one year after printing, shall be delivered, suitably bound, to the superintendent of documents for distribution to public, school, or college libraries, or for sale.

"That whenever any document not bearing a Congressional number is furnished for the use of Congress five hundred and ninety-eight additional copies shall be printed when the same shall be ready for publication, and shall be bound and distributed as follows:

"To the Senate library, fifteen copies; to the House library, fifteen copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies, and fifty additional copies for foreign exchanges; to the superintendent of documents, five hundred and sixteen copies for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories. The documents herein provided for distribution to the Senate library, the House library, and the Library of Congress and its foreign exchanges shall be bound in full sheep, and the remainder of such documents shall be bound in first grades of cloth. In binding the latter a distinctive color shall be assigned to the publications of each department, the offices under it, and other offices, as may be agreed upon by the proper officer thereof and the Public Printer, and when assigned such color shall be continued thereafter.

"Of all such documents printed for the use of Congress, the 'usual number,' which shall also be printed unless previously ordered, shall

be one thousand one hundred and two copies, which shall be distributed as follows:

"In unbound form: To the Senate document room, one hundred and eighty copies; to the House document room, three hundred and ninety copies; to the Secretary of the Senate, ten copies; to the Clerk of the House, twenty copies; to the Library of Congress, two copies. The remainder of said documents shall be reserved by the Public Printer in unstitched form, and shall be held subject to be bound, in the number provided by law, upon orders from the Vice-President, Senators, Representatives, Delegates, Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House, in such binding as they shall select, except full morocco or calf, and when not called for within one year after printing, shall be delivered, suitably bound, to the superintendent of documents for distribution to public, school, or college libraries, or for sale."

Amend section 58 so as to read:

"SEC. 58. That whenever printing not bearing a Congressional number shall be done for any department, bureau, commission, or officer of the Government, except confidential matter, blank forms, and circular letters not of a public character, or shall be done for the use of Congressional committees, not of a confidential character, two copies shall be sent, unless withheld by order of the committee, by the Public Printer to the Senate and House libraries and the superintendent of documents, respectively, and one copy each to the document rooms of the Senate and House for reference, and these copies shall not be removed; and of all publications of the Executive Departments, bureaus, offices, and commissions, unless the requisition for the printing thereof shall certify that the same is not intended for public information or distribution, but exclusively for official use, five hundred and eighteen copies shall be delivered at once, as follows:

"To the Library of Congress, two copies; to the superintendent of documents, five hundred and sixteen copies for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories."

Amend section 61 so as to read:

"SEC. 61. That the Public Printer shall appoint a competent person to act as superintendent of documents, and shall fix his salary. The superintendent of documents so designated and appointed is hereby authorized to sell at cost any public document in his charge the distribution of which is not herein specifically directed, said cost to be estimated by the Public Printer and based upon printing from stereotyped plates; and upon the requisition and certification of the superintendent of documents that the same is necessary to supply the public demand for any document out of print, the plates of which are available for reprint, the Public Printer shall print and suitably bind not to exceed five hundred copies thereof and deliver the same to the superintendent of documents for sale: *Provided*, That not less than one-third of the number of documents so ordered shall have been previously subscribed and paid for; and

whenever any officer of the Government having in his charge documents published for sale shall desire to be relieved of the same, he is hereby authorized to turn them over to the superintendent of documents, who shall receive and sell them under the provisions of this section. All moneys received from the sale of documents shall be returned to the Public Printer on the first day of each month, and be by him covered into the Treasury monthly; and the superintendent of documents shall report annually the number of copies of each and every document sold by him and the price of the same. He shall also report monthly to the Public Printer the number of documents received by him, and the disposition made of the same. He shall have general supervision of the distribution of all public documents, and to his custody shall be committed all documents subject to distribution, excepting those printed for the special official use of the Executive Departments, which shall be delivered to said departments, and those printed for the use of the two Houses of Congress, which shall be delivered to the folding rooms of said Houses and distributed or delivered ready for distribution to Members and Delegates, upon their order, by the superintendents of the folding rooms of the Senate and House of Representatives."

Amend section 62 so as to read:

"SEC. 62. That the superintendent of documents shall, at the close of each Congress, prepare and publish a comprehensive index of public documents, beginning with the Fifty-fifth Congress, upon the plan heretofore approved by the Joint Committee on Printing. Such index shall contain entries of all numbered Congressional documents ordered printed through an entire Congress, and of all documents not bearing a Congressional number those covering the two fiscal years ended June thirtieth in odd-numbered years. And the Public Printer shall, immediately upon its publication, deliver to him a copy of each and every document printed by the Government Printing Office; and the head of each of the Executive Departments, bureaus, commissions, and offices of the Government shall deliver to him a copy of each and every document issued or published by such department, bureau, commission, or office, not confidential in its character. He shall prepare and print in one volume a consolidated index of Congressional documents, and shall index such single volumes of documents as the Joint Committee on Printing shall direct. Of the comprehensive index and of the consolidated index two thousand copies each shall be printed and bound in addition to the usual number, two hundred copies for the use of the Senate, eight hundred copies for the use of the House, and one thousand copies for distribution by the superintendent of documents."

Amend section 69 so as to read:

"SEC. 69. That a catalogue of Government publications shall be prepared by the superintendent of documents on the first day of each month, which shall show the documents printed

during the preceding month, where obtainable, and the price thereof. Two thousand five hundred copies of the monthly catalogue of public documents shall be printed in pamphlet form for distribution by the superintendent of documents to Senators, Representatives, and Delegates in Congress, the officers of the two Houses, heads of departments, bureaus, offices, and commissions, and public libraries, and in addition thereto such number as may be necessary to supply all who shall subscribe therefor at sixty cents per annum."

Amend paragraph 18 of section 73 so as to read:

"The Secretary of State shall cause to be printed and bound at the Government Printing Office, for delivery to the superintendent of documents, as many volumes of the Revised Statutes of the United States and supplements thereto as may be needed for distribution to designated depositories, State and Territorial libraries, and for sale at the cost thereof; and the Secretary of State shall hereafter cause to be printed a sufficient number of pamphlet copies of the statutes of the present and each future session of Congress, the Statutes at Large of the United States, and the Supplements to the Revised Statutes of the United States to enable him to furnish, and he shall furnish, to the Department of Justice, including those for the use of the Chief Justice and associate justices of the Supreme Court, and the judges and the officers of the United States and Territorial courts and to State supreme court libraries, seven hundred copies of each of the above-named publications. He shall also furnish said department, from time to time, through the superintendent of documents, such additional copies of these publications and of the Revised Statutes of the United States as may be needed to supply new courts and to replace copies which are worn out, lost, or have been destroyed."

Amend paragraph 22 of section 73 so as to read:

"The Public Printer shall deliver to the folding rooms of the Senate and House of Representatives seven thousand copies of the pamphlet laws, two thousand copies of which shall be for the Senate and five thousand copies for the House."

Amend section 73 by adding the following:

"The Public Printer shall print and deliver to the Department of Justice, for distribution to the judges of the United States courts, one hundred and twenty-five copies, in slip form, of the public laws and resolutions. He shall also print and deliver to the superintendent of documents, for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories, five hundred and sixteen copies, in slip form, of the public laws and resolutions."

Amend section 89 so as to read:

"Sec. 89. That no printing shall be done for the Executive Departments in any fiscal year in excess of the amount of the appropriation; and none shall be done without a special requisition, signed by the chief of the depart-

ment and filed with the Public Printer. Heads of Executive Departments shall direct whether reports made to them by bureau chiefs and chiefs of divisions shall be printed or not."

SEC. 2. That annual reports of heads of Executive Departments and chiefs of bureaus, commissions, and offices, reports of special boards and commissions appointed by the President or other executive officer, periodicals issued weekly, monthly, yearly, or at other regular intervals, and serial publications issued at regular intervals shall not be numbered and printed as Congressional documents.

SEC. 3. That the color and lettering of the binding and the phraseology and typography of the title-page of every public document shall be the same on and in all copies of such document, except reprints, which may show the addition of new matter and the date thereof: *Provided*, That this provision shall not be held to preclude or curtail any privilege now enjoyed by members and officers of Congress of having documents specially bound for their personal use.

SEC. 4. That the documents, bills, resolutions, and reports of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, shall be numbered consecutively through a Congress.

SEC. 5. That the Public Printer shall print and deliver to the Library of Congress, for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries, fifty copies of all documents printed by order of either House of Congress or of any department or bureau of the Government.

SEC. 6. That the Attorney-General shall from time to time cause to be edited, and printed at the Government Printing Office, an edition of one thousand five hundred and sixteen copies of such of the opinions of the law officers as he may deem valuable for preservation in volumes, which shall be, as to size, quality of paper, printing, and binding, of uniform style and appearance, as nearly as practicable, with volume eight of such opinions. Each volume shall contain proper headnotes, a complete and full index, and such footnotes as the Attorney-General may approve. One thousand copies shall be distributed in such manner as the Attorney-General may from time to time prescribe, and the remainder shall be delivered to the superintendent of documents for distribution to State and Territorial libraries and designated depositories.

SEC. 7. That it shall be the duty of the author or compiler of any public document to furnish the title-page and index for the same.

SEC. 8. That the Public Printer shall sell to any person or persons who may apply therefor electrotypes of relief-plate illustrations which appear in Government publications, at a price not to exceed the cost of metal and making to the Government and ten per centum added: *Provided*, That the full amount of the price shall be paid when the order is filed.

SEC. 9. That all laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

BILL TO REDUCE POSTAL RATES FOR LIBRARY BOOKS.

THE movement initiated by the New England Education League, through its secretary, W. Scott, of Cambridge, Mass., to secure reduction in the postal rates for books sent to or from libraries, has resulted in the preparation of a bill providing for such reduction. The bill, which was introduced in the Senate by Senator Lodge on Jan. 24, and in the House by Representative Lawrence on Jan. 27, is as follows:

"A BILL TO ESTABLISH A LIBRARY POST.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

"That, subject to such regulations as the Postmaster-General may from time to time determine, books and other printed matter belonging to and passing from and to any of the libraries enumerated below be, and are hereby, admitted to carriage by the mail at one cent per pound, or fraction thereof, namely:

"Public libraries maintained wholly or in part by taxation, by towns, cities, states, or other political units, or by the United States.

"School libraries supported by taxation, or having tax exemptions, belonging to educational institutions of all grades.

"Society or social libraries having entire or partial tax exemption, or other public privileges maintained by endowment or taxation, or from both sources, by religious, literary, professional, trade, industrial, or library associations.

"SEC. 2. That this act shall take effect from and after its passage."

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

THE committee on libraries of the American New-Church Sunday-School Association has made through its chairman, W. C. Lane, a report which is printed as a supplement to *The Sower*, the organ of the association. The committee has examined 200 books and has prepared a list of 56 which were considered suitable for Sunday-school libraries. Its intention has been "to reject all books of a sensational type and those which set forth false or low ideals. The committee also thinks it right to insist upon fairly good English in the books it recommends, and accordingly rejects books in which slang is carried to too great an excess or in which dialect or incorrect language is made too prominent an element. Slang, bad grammar and dialect cannot be absolutely excluded, but realism in this direction is often carried too far, and when so carried is surely harmful in children's books, and adds nothing essential to the reality of the story. It is unnecessary perhaps, to add that the committee likewise rejects those vapid and unreal productions not so common now as formerly, but once considered to be specially suited for the Sunday-school, books with a very thick layer of morality and religion spread over the surface, but with very

little real morality or religion in their substance.

"The list presented includes picture-books for the youngest children, simple books of nature, travel, and history, and wholesome stories for young folks of all ages, but it does not often trench on the field of adult literature properly so called. At the same time, the committee recognizes that an early acquaintance with much of this literature, especially with much of enduring value which has come to us from the past, is desirable, and it calls attention to this lack in its list only that it may be supplied from the home, the public library, and the school."

Useful suggestions for the work of Sunday-school libraries are made:

"A good deal has been said lately in regard to the relation of the public library and the Sunday-school library. Some librarians have suggested making Sunday-school libraries branches of the public library, to be supplied with books from the public library as a centre. This is certainly enterprising on the part of the public libraries, and shows how eagerly they are trying to fulfil their purpose and make themselves of use to every one. Such co-operation we can accept gladly wherever the public library is in a position to offer it, and wherever we can be sure that the selection of books to be sent to the Sunday-school library will be made with a sympathetic understanding of the wants of the special group of children to be provided for. Other librarians have advocated abolishing the Sunday-school library on the ground that the public library furnishes all that is required and reaches the children better than ever before. It is no doubt true that the public library by co-operation with the school and the teacher, and by providing special rooms for children and special assistants to help them, is doing better work than ever before, and there may be some places where it can satisfactorily perform the service that the Sunday-school library is specially adapted for. But in general it is true that the Sunday-school library has its own work to do and that it has certain special advantages in doing it. In the first place it does not have to cover so wide a range of subject as the public library, so that it can cultivate the field it does occupy more carefully; in the second place, it can generally allow more freedom and informality in the use of its books; and in the third place, the group of children who use it is usually more homogeneous in character and environment. The public library must provide for all classes, for all stages of civilization so to speak, and what is good reading for one set of children is very poor reading for another class. The Sunday-school library escapes this difficulty to a large extent and so its problems are simplified. It is accordingly worth fostering and making as efficient as possible, because it furnishes one more opportunity to get good reading into children's

* The lists prepared by the committee may be obtained at 10 c. each, on application to Rev. W. H. Alden, 2129 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

hands and to become intimate and friendly with them."

In conclusion the committee suggests the adoption of the "travelling library" idea for the Sunday-school libraries as a means of enabling the better equipped libraries to make their books more widely useful.

THE IMPERFECT LIBRARIAN.

From Scribner's Magazine, February, 1900.

THERE was under consideration at the time of the opening of the Boston Public Library a plan for establishing, in the juvenile department, a species of advisership for boys and girls selecting books, which advisership was to be exercised by a woman capable of filling the so difficult demands of the position. Whether the plan passed into execution the present writer does not know. As to its value, however, and also as to the extraordinary qualities of tact, wisdom, and sympathy required for its effectual carrying out, there can be no manner of doubt.

Now these are hard things to ask of a librarian, or librarian's assistant. And it is certainly unreasonable to expect them, either for the use of children or adults. To be a librarian is not to belong to the most opulently remunerative professions; and there are so many mechanical details to be attended to in a well-managed modern library that you quite see how the for the most part very practical gentlemen and alert young women who minister to your wants should have little leisure for infusing into their ministrations the aroma of the psychic element.

After having freely admitted that one is quite unreasonable to expect the average librarian to be anything but a mechanical librarian, one may go on with a quiet conscience to say that one does expect it; at least, that there are some of us who expect it, and who are bruised in our sensibilities when the matter falls out otherwise. There is browsing, for instance. The outward arrangements of a library may all be undisturbing enough, but the atmosphere is somehow wanting. And every browser knows that the atmosphere is the beginning and end of all. That is, he knows it when he comes to think the matter over. When he is in the midst of the ruminating act itself he is dumbly conscious only of being comfortable or the reverse. But when he is comfortable he comes out rested, refreshed, renewed; and when he is not, the browsing has, in the true sense, been a failure; he has got no good from it.

And what have the librarian, and the librarian's assistants, hurried, overworked, and underpaid, to do with this? Truly, they have a great deal to do with it. The perfect browser, especially if he be into the bargain a lover of the physical body of the Book, is not a little of a harmless lunatic. He is beyond conventions, and has entered for the moment into the true humanity. Emperor and beggar alike would be brother and friend to him who loved these things as he loves them. Let us suppose that he meets the cold glance of the young woman

in shirt-waist and eyeglasses, who at the circulating desk is handling books with up-to-the-minute movements that indicate that this is no world to moon in. The browser's mood changes, and with the result that he finds it difficult to draw the two ends of the magic circle that before encompassed him together again.

This clearly is not as it should be. The perfect librarian is a subjective being, and moves more within than without the world of books that surrounds him. He is subdued to the reverence of what he works in, and has the student's preceptions, discreet and catholic. He helps to create the ambient with which a library should be permeated, and even to those who have no feeling for the right spirit of the place his manners and personality are an instruction, unconsciously absorbed, and leading them to a humaner attitude. In short, the most precious qualifications that a librarian can have are precisely such as cannot be taught; exactly as is the case with teachers, whose true efficiency is dependent upon some priceless personal gifts which are wholly incommunicable. The ideal of these qualifications should enter more prominently into the training of librarians than is now the case, even though the gifts are rare and difficult to secure.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE FUTURE.

W. H. Brett, in Cleveland Leader, Jan. 1.

THE public library of the future will sustain the same relation to all other educational work in the city that the college library does to all the other departments of the college.

Beginning with the youngest children who have learned to read, it supplies reading collateral to and illustrative of their studies. It goes with them step by step through to the close of their school or college course. The students of the professional schools may draw upon it for subjects related to their studies. To the reader whose school life is past, it offers opportunity of continuing his education through life. It will in the future become still more definitely the centre of organized associations for study, such as literary and scientific clubs, and in order to do this it will provide not only quiet study-rooms for the individual student, but meeting-rooms for such clubs. It will have a drafting-room in connection with its mechanical and architectural books, and a developing-room for the photographer. So far as is desired, it will care for the libraries of societies, making them all the more valuable from their connection with the general library. It may have an audience-room in which lectures may be given intended to arouse an interest in important subjects which may be further studied in the library.

The city library of the future will probably consist of a main library, with a series of branches and stations reaching to all parts of the city. The main library will be the convenient centre for administration, for bookbuying and cataloging, and for all which concerns the library as a whole. It will house the book-

bindery and printing office, it will contain the great reference library, the collection of books for the scholar and student. The main library building should be in its architecture and surroundings worthy of the important place it will fill in the civic life. The main library and the branches so far as possible should include adequate provisions for public comfort.

The branches and stations should be so placed as to bring books within a reasonable distance of all parts of the city. Anything less than this is an injustice to the sections which are neglected. One of the most practical and advisable ways of extending the library may be by providing a library-room in a sufficient number of the school-houses. These would serve both for a school and neighborhood library, and would make the school-house more fully the centre of neighborhood life.

Much which I have so briefly sketched has already been accomplished in some of our American cities. I trust and believe that the new era will see it all in operation. The library is as definitely an educational institution as the school, and is broader in its scope. Its use does not terminate with the years of pupilage, but extends through life. It is the one institution in which all may be interested, and which may be of value to all. It may be counted with the home, the church, and the school, as one of the forces making for social betterment.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF ATLANTA.

THE Carnegie Library of Atlanta began the new year with the plans for its new building selected, its site secured, and all signs set fair for the prompt execution of the work that is necessary to establish the library in its handsome home. The plans for the building were chosen in a competition limited to nine invited architects, the successful competitor to be awarded three and a third per cent. of cost of building. Second and third awards of \$500 and \$300, respectively, were assigned for the competitors next in rank. Eight plans were submitted, and on Dec. 21 the special jury of award—consisting of President Kelley, of the library board, Miss Wallace, and J. H. Dinwiddie, supervising architect—selected the designs of Ackerman & Ross, of New York, the architects of the Carnegie Library of Washington.

The successful plans, reproduced elsewhere, call for a building somewhat similar in style to that designed for the Washington Carnegie Library, being of the conventionalized Ionic order, with classic ornamentation. The general effect, though simple, is effective, the chief criticism to be made being the seeming subordination of ample light to architectural consistency. The material to be used has not yet been decided on, although the plans provide for marble. The total cost is given as about \$115,000. The main entrance on Church street is reached by a low stairway, with recumbent lions on either side, and guarded by massive iron gates, within which are heavy oak doors. Through these is reached the vestibule, 18 by 20 feet,

which leads to the large main hall, giving access to all rooms on the main floor, save the stack-room, and containing the handsome central staircase, which is the chief architectural feature of the interior. The hall branches to the left, connecting by a vestibule with the second entrance on Forsyth street, not less spacious, but somewhat less ornate than the Church street entrance. The first floor provides for a delivery-room and large open-shelf room on the right-hand side, connecting with the stack building; a children's room and magazine-room, check-room, etc. The plans, as shown, are modified by the transposition of the delivery-room and the open-shelf room, the latter being assigned the larger space of 36 x 44 feet, with ampler stack-room connection, and the similar transposition of the children's room and the magazine-room, the latter being thus given a space of 25 x 48 feet. On the second floor there is a large central memorial hall, 34 x 42, from which opens, on the right hand, the reference-room and catalogers' room, both connecting with the stack. The librarian's public and private offices connect with the catalogers' room on the right and the trustees' room on the left of the memorial hall, and a lecture-room, 36 x 44, corresponds with the reference-room on the opposite side of the building. The partition now provided between this lecture-room and the trustees' room is only a temporary arrangement, the idea being that these two rooms will eventually be thrown into one, as the main reading-room, with capacity for about 2000 volumes, special collections, etc.

In the basement, on the west side, which is 12 feet above ground, it is probable that later on a children's room will be established, with a separate entrance, leaving the room now assigned to that purpose free for other use. Here, also, provision is made for a bindery, for storage, delivery-station room, etc.

In their report upon the successful plan the jury of award stated that "it possesses all of the special features wished for by the librarian, and bears evidence of great architectural taste and ability. It has a maximum floor area with a minimum length of enclosing walls. Its halls and stairways are simply and tastefully designed, at the same time they are in effective and prominent positions, and of liberal proportions. In the proportions of the rooms it differs from all others and makes minimum distances from all parts of open-shelf room and reference-room to attendant desks. The lighting is good throughout. Especial care has been given to the basement arrangement, which is well studied, and presents attractive features for its use as reading-rooms in the future. The arrangement on second floor is well adapted to future growth. The whole plan is straightforward and simple, and the design is uniformly graceful and monumental."

Work upon the site of the new building was begun early in January, and it will be cleared for excavation within a short time. The contract for the building will be assigned early in February, and it is hoped to have the process of erection well under way by spring.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NEW JERSEY.

THE committee on state library commission of the New Jersey Library Association has issued an excellent pamphlet on "Public libraries in New Jersey," which should be of service in its campaign for library development. It gives in definite and compact form the facts regarding the libraries of the state, the library law, and the efforts that have been made for the establishment of a state commission. There are reported, as the result of careful inquiry, 47 free public libraries in the state, supported wholly or in part by the city or town in which they are located; 23 subscription libraries, carried on under the auspices of clubs or associations of various kinds; and school libraries in many towns, which, however, "are not doing the work of the free public library." There are 129 cities and towns having a population of over 750 without a library of any kind. Among the libraries of the state, the oldest is that of Burlington, organized in 1758 under a charter granted by George II.; the largest are Newark, Jersey City, Paterson, and Hoboken. In circulation the rank is: Jersey City, Newark, Hoboken, Paterson. Camden has the distinction of having the largest circulation in proportion to the number of volumes, Passaic ranking second.

Of the libraries reporting, "comparatively few are familiar with the modern improved methods of library work;" 26 use the Dewey system, 36 have card catalogs, 38 have printed catalogs, 28 encourage special work with schools, 23 have the two-book system, and 54 permit access to shelves. Tabulated statistics are appended, giving detailed information of the reporting libraries—date of establishment, class, books and circulation, source and amount of income, and data as to branches, catalogs, school work, access to shelves, etc.

Within the past few years New Jersey has seen an encouraging library development. The generous gifts and improvements for the Princeton University Library, the fine building now in course of erection at Newark, the new buildings planned or in progress for Jersey City, Orange, East Orange, and Montclair, the new libraries in Camden and Madison, and the development of the state library under its new administration, are all hopeful signs for the future. The travelling library system, established by act of 1897, is also in operation, and though it reaches mainly women's clubs, it should materially aid in library development. As the most important means of such development, the library association, through its committee, has striven long to secure a state library commission. A bill for such a commission was passed by the legislature in 1896, but failed to become a law, and its adoption is again strongly urged. The proposed bill is modelled upon the act creating the Massachusetts commission. It provides for five commissioners, serving without pay; appropriates \$500 annually for clerical assistance; and authorizes state aid, through the commission, to the extent of \$100 for books, to be given to such free

public libraries, containing less than 5000 v., as shall set aside an equal sum for book purchases. The existing library laws of the state are also given, that most generally approved being the act of April 1, 1884, which provides for the establishment of free public libraries in cities by popular vote, authorizing the appointment of five trustees by the mayor and the appropriation of an annual library assessment of one-third of a mill; by act of April 2, 1890, this law was amended to embrace towns and townships.

CLOSING OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

LATE in January the issue of books for home use from the circulating department of the Scranton Public Library was suspended, for a time, by direction of the city health authorities. All books then out of the library were ordered to be kept apart when returned, and not replaced on their shelves until fumigated. Other departments of the library were permitted to carry on the customary work in reading-room and reference use. Such an extreme action in the case of an epidemic not especially severe is unusual, to say the least, and the mere fact may, in the future, be cited as a precedent and cause needless trouble to other libraries, unless the peculiar circumstances connected with it are fully known.

An epidemic of diphtheria, more or less prevalent for several months past, has been succeeded by one of scarlet fever. Although no markedly large number of deaths seems to have resulted from either cause, considerable feeling has been evinced against the city board of health and its health officer. Under the laws of Pennsylvania their powers are deemed to be ample for either protection against or for prevention of the spread of such diseases, if properly and efficiently exercised. Unfortunately, very many of the local practicing physicians, it is understood, do not act in harmony with the health officials. On the other hand, the latter charge the doctors with failure to report contagious cases, and have also publicly admitted their inability to obtain such reports to a satisfactory degree.

Very naturally the health board, and officer, are desirous of making a show of activity and effectiveness, and, among other steps, closed many of the schools for a time. After that, and before consulting the library officers, they announced an intention of "shutting up the public library." Despite all arguments to the contrary, the citation of investigation made by the American Library Association in prior years, and every offer of co-operation through the means of notices and messengers so customary elsewhere in circumstances of this nature, they persisted in the temporary closing, but modified it so as to apply to the circulating department only. The final excuse for this action was a plea that so many cases were likely to exist unknown to the health authorities that the proposed co-operation could not be made effective; and hence, for fear of the few that might

escape notice, it was necessary to deprive of library reading the innocent and the offending alike, till the epidemics were overcome. Later, however, the decision was rescinded, and the home issue of books was resumed on Feb. 15.

In accordance with orders, while the circulation was suspended, the library disinfected by means of formaline vapor all books returned after the closing went into effect (some 3000 volumes). The books were placed in a vault room, arranged loosely apart on temporary shelving, and were then subjected to a thorough injection of formaldehyde gas, the air in the room having been previously moistened with live steam for about five minutes. The books were left in this condition for about 36 hours, and were then replaced on the shelves ready for use, and a fresh lot were then subjected to the same treatment. It is thought that this is possibly the first instance of book disinfecting on a wholesale basis and without injury (so far as known) to the volumes themselves.

It is to be hoped that no future occasion will arise for so broadcast a procedure in the effort to head off a possible unknown instance of carrying contagion. It is proper to add that none but harmonious relations exist between the library management and the respective health officials, despite a frankly stated difference of opinion regarding the necessity for ceasing the issue of books.

HENRY J. CARR, *Librarian*.

INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE, 1897.

HENRY R. TEDDER, honorary treasurer of the Second International Library Conference of 1897, has made his final financial report of the receipts and expenses of that conference, as follows:

"I am glad to be able to present the final balance-sheet promised in my financial statement printed in the 'Transactions and Proceedings' (London, 1898, pp. 277-9), a copy of which has been forwarded to every member of the conference. The printing, binding, and distribution of the volume cost £197 7s. 3d., which was just within the estimate. Additional secretarial and petty expenses were £16 15s. 4d., so that there remained a surplus of £192 10s. 1d.

"A circular letter addressed to all the members of the conference on 6th October, 1899, stated that the organizing committee, after having most anxiously considered the administration of this surplus, decided to refund a grant of £20 by the Bibliographical Society, and then to hand over whatever money remained after winding up the affairs of the conference to the Library Association, being fully satisfied that body would devote the money to the best advantage in advancing the objects which all the members of the conference had in view.

"Before drawing up the final balance-sheet, the organizing committee felt it their duty to offer to return to any contributor to the reception fund a sum equal *pro rata* to his or her share of the net balance of that fund. Applications for such

a return were to be made not later than 15th November, after which date the organizing committee announced that they would consider themselves fully at liberty to dispose of the entire surplus in the way mentioned, and many letters were received both from the United States and this country heartily approving of the proposals of the committee. One application was received for the proportionate return of a contribution to the reception fund which amounted to 2s. 10d.

"Five-and-twenty of the surplus copies of the 'Transactions and Proceedings' were presented to the American Library Association for distribution in the United States at their pleasure, and the remainder were handed over to the Library Association, to which society it is also proposed to entrust all the minute books, letters, papers, and other property accumulated by the conference." An itemized account, audited by T. J. Agar, honorary auditor of the conference, is appended to Mr. Tedder's statement.

American Library Association.

President: R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

Secretary: Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

Treasurer: Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE, JUNE 7-12, 1900.

It is possible to announce a preliminary outline of the plans made for the 22d annual meeting of the American Library Association, which will be held at Montreal, June 7-12 inclusive, followed by a post conference trip extending probably from June 13 to 16.

The conference will be arranged to give five full days to business sessions, relieved by provision for local entertainment, and the working days will be broken by a Sunday, to be devoted to rest or individual sightseeing. This is an innovation on previous conferences, where, as a rule, the business sessions have begun on Monday or Tuesday and continued through the greater part of the week; but it is thought that the new arrangement will have two advantages, in providing a restful break in the business routine and in giving special opportunity to see the churches and famous religious institutions of Montreal. Business will then be resumed on Monday, June 11, and on Wednesday evening, June 13, the post conference party will leave for a three or four days' trip up the Saguenay, as far as Chicoutimi, and return, stopping at Tadoussac and Quebec.

The program, as outlined, provides for business sessions on every morning of the conference, for two afternoon and three evening sessions, one of the latter to be a public meeting in Windsor Hall, and for several delightful local trips and entertainments. The various travel parties will probably reach Montreal in the late afternoon or evening of Wednesday, June 6, and the first session will be the usual informal social gathering, held on the evening of arrival. The arrangements of the local hosts include in part a trolley trip through the city to

Mount Royal and the Westmount Library; visits to the Chateau de Ramezay, Fraser Institute, and historical points, under the auspices of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society; a trip to the La Chine Rapids, and a formal reception tendered by the authorities of McGill University. The list of interesting and historic scenes for which other visits are likely to be arranged, individually or in parties, might be indefinitely extended, but it may suffice to mention St. James's Cathedral, Notre Dame, the Gray Nunnery, Bonsecours Market, the Jesuit College, and the art gallery. Headquarters will be at the Windsor Hotel, and sessions will be held in one of the buildings of McGill University by the courtesy of the faculty of the university.

For the program no definite announcements are made, but it is understood that special features will include a session devoted to library work for children, a joint session of trustees and librarians, a session devoted to Canadian libraries and literature, and a group of "round table" meetings on specialized topics.

Announcement regarding rates, routes, and local arrangements and details of program will be made later.

PUBLISHING SECTION.

PRINTED CATALOG CARDS FOR PERIODICAL SETS AND FOR BOOKS OF COMPOSITE AUTHORSHIP.

Of the publications given in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for which the Publishing Section is prepared to print catalog cards, the following are among the ones most called for by librarians, and will be printed during 1900:

10. American Historical Association. Papers, 1885-91, v. 1-5. (57 articles.)
 11. — Reports, 1889-98. (175 articles.)
 12. Mass. Historical Society. Collections, 1792-1899. (About 370 articles.) Only the more important articles will be taken from the earlier volumes.
 13. Old South leaflets, series 1-4. (100 articles.)
 14. Shaler, N. S. United States of America, 1894. 2 v. (30 articles.)
 - *15. Smithsonian Institution. Contributions to knowledge, 1862-95, v. 1-28. (124 articles.)
 - *16. — Miscellaneous collections. 1862-97, v. 1-36. (155 articles.)
 17. U. S. Bureau of Education. Circulars of information, 1873-99. (99 articles.)
 - *18. U. S. National Museum: Bulletin, 1875-98, nos. 1-49. (49 articles.)
 19. U. S. Special consular reports, 1890-98, v. 1-14. (27 articles.)
- Price, 75 cents per 100 cards.
20. Great Britain. Parliament. Sessional papers, 1896-99. Regularly continued reports, about 200; special reports and papers, about 100 each year, selected.

Price, \$1 per 100 cards.

As in the case of the sets recently printed and others now in press, suggested subject headings will be printed at the foot of the card, and enough cards will be provided to furnish for each title an author entry and the requisite

number of subject entries. The cards will be of both the standard sizes.

The number of articles noted after each title is in many cases a careful estimate only. The number of cards in each set may be expected to be about two and a half times the number of articles.

The asterisk (*) indicates that the current numbers of the publication are included among the periodicals for which printed cards are already regularly issued.

In giving orders for these sets, please indicate if the current issues are desired. The latter are issued at the rate of \$4 per 100 titles, two cards being furnished for each title. The additional price is due to the additional expense of distributing the cards for periodicals selected from the periodical list.

Address orders to the A. L. A. Publishing Section, 10½ Beacon street, Boston, stating the size of card desired.

The cards for the Smithsonian Institution reports, 1886-97, have just been issued, and can be obtained of the Publishing Section for \$7.14.

On Jan. 1, 1900, the principal publications of the A. L. A. Publishing Section were transferred from the Library Bureau to Houghton, Mifflin & Co., who will in future be the regular publishers of the Publishing Section. The "List of subject headings" remains in the hands of the Library Bureau. Orders for all publications may be addressed to the Library Bureau or to booksellers.

Orders for all card publications should be sent to the Publishing Section, except for the printed cards for current books, which should be ordered from the Library Bureau.

W. C. LANE, Treasurer.

State Library Commissions.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: George T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College Library Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

MICHIGAN F. P. L. COMMISSION: Mrs. M. C. Spencer, secretary, State Library, Lansing.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Gratia A. Countryman, secretary, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: A. H. Chase, secretary, State Library, Concord.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

State Library Associations.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. J. Teggart, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Secretary: R. E. Cowan, 829 Mission Street, San Francisco.

Treasurer: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

Secretary: Herbert E. Richie, City Library, Denver.

Treasurer: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

Secretary: Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

Treasurer: Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Walter B. Hill, University of Georgia, Athens.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

Secretary: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

Treasurer: Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Helen Guld, Bloomington.

Secretary: W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie Fatout, Anderson.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. L. R. Gifford, Public Library, Cambridge.

Secretary: F. O. Poole, Boston Athenæum.

Treasurer: Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

Secretary: Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

Treasurer: Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

Treasurer: Miss N. S. Loving, Public School Library, Ann Arbor.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary: Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato.

Treasurer: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. I. Wyer, State University Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Bertha Baumer, Public Library, Omaha.

Treasurer: Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. H. Chase, Concord.

Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Treasurer: Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. E. C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

Secretary: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. J. H. Canfield, Columbia University Library, New York City.

Secretary: Miss M. E. Hazeltine, Prendergast Library, Jamestown.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Free Circulating Library, 226 W. 42d st., New York City.

The New York State Library Association will hold a joint meeting with the New York Library Club on Thursday, March 8. The meeting will be held at the Y. W. C. A. building, 7 E. 15th st., New York City. The morning session will be conducted by the state library association; the afternoon session by the New York Library Club; and in the evening the two associations will dine together. Friday will be spent by the state association in visiting New York libraries, in connection with which special courtesies and invitations have been arranged. No detailed announcement of program is yet made, but it is promised that the topics will be fresh and up-to-date; that several new voices will be heard, and that every arrangement will be made for the comfort and enjoyment of the members visiting the city.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

Treasurer: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

The association is preparing, in connection with the state library commission, a full statistical report of the libraries of Ohio. The work of compilation is now nearing completion, and it is the purpose of the association to request an appropriation of \$1000 from the legislature to meet the cost of publication.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Dr. E. J. Nolan, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

Secretary: Miss Mary P. Farr, Free Library of Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

Secretary: Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

Library Clubs.

BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

Secretary: Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

President: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss A. S. Woodcock, Grosvenor Library.

In place of its regular meeting for January the Buffalo Library Club held a reception for Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, in the children's room of the Buffalo Public Library, on Jan. 18. The rooms, which were tastefully dressed with flowers and ornamented with a few choice pictures, made many of the older guests remark upon the advantages that the children of the present day enjoy. Mrs. Elmendorf and Miss Stearns received the members of the club and their guests, among whom were some of the librarians from the surrounding towns, in a delightfully informal manner. The president then called the meeting to order and announced that at a late meeting of the executive board Mrs. B. S. Fulton had been appointed chairman of the program committee. Miss Stearns then gave a very bright and amusing account of her experiences with travelling libraries. Music was furnished by Miss Elizabeth White and Miss Frazer. After refreshments had been served the evening closed with social intercourse.

ANNIE S. WOODCOCK, *Secretary.*

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

Secretary: Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

The regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held at the Sherman House, Thursday evening, Jan. 11. There were about 70 people present, and the meeting proved truly a social one. There were no formal papers, but an excellent short musical and literary program, which was followed by refreshments and dancing.

IRENE WARREN, *Secretary.*

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

Secretary: W. H. Duncan, Jr., Flatbush Public Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

The January meeting of the New York Library Club was held on the 11th of the month, at the Astor building of the New York Public Library. Despite the inclemency of the weather, a goodly number of members turned out. The meeting was called to order at 8.15 p.m., with Dr. J. S. Billings in the chair. The question of the affiliation of the club with the

New York State Library Association was taken up, and the report of the executive committee of the club, advising that no action making for affiliation be taken at this time, was adopted.

The evening was devoted to the discussion of state library laws. Mr. J. N. Wing introduced the subject, speaking on the laws of Massachusetts and New York. He said that although the Massachusetts law is the simplest of all state library laws, it had tended wonderfully to the establishment of public libraries. The Massachusetts library commission is authorized to give \$100 to libraries applying for aid. Unless the advice of the commission is asked, it takes no further particular interest in a library thus assisted, relying upon individuals and the locality to foster the movement. The speaker thought that great results had accrued from this simple system. In New York the influence of the state authorities was strongly felt, and the library clause in the proposed "Education bill" now before the New York legislature gave still more control to the Regents over libraries. Nevertheless, Mr. Wing thought the new law to be a good one; it tended toward the establishment of libraries and set up a good system of library management.

R. E. Helbig, the next speaker, discussed the laws of New Hampshire and Wisconsin, noting the similarity of the law of the latter state with the law of Massachusetts, and pointing out the special features of each. Miss A. R. Hasse spoke on the laws of California, Illinois, and Iowa. She said that Illinois in 1872 had passed the first full and specific library law, and that all later state laws, more particularly the western, had been in a measure modelled upon it. Under the Illinois law 39 public libraries, aggregating 618,000 volumes, had been established; under the Iowa law, passed in 1873, and remodelled in 1888, 14 public libraries, representing 150,000 volumes, had been inaugurated; and in California, under the law of 1880, 18 public libraries, aggregating 320,000 volumes, had been established.

"The library laws of Connecticut, their advantages and defects," was responded to by Miss D. S. Pinneo, of the Norwalk Public Library. Miss Pinneo thought that the most important movement in the state had been the appointment of a library committee of five in 1893. This committee, she said, had been indefatigable in its labors, endeavoring to establish libraries in towns where there were no libraries and to stimulate and encourage libraries already alive. The work of the library committee, supplemented by state aid to the extent of the payment of \$100 to libraries raising a like amount, had resulted in the establishment of libraries in all but 25 of the towns of Connecticut. Miss Pinneo believed in a modification of the existing law, which should not make the library tax a separate tax, as such separation was apt to awaken opposition on the part of taxpayers who feared an extra burden.

Dr. Canfield, of Columbia University Library, in the general discussion of state laws that followed, brought out the point that the library

tax should be stated as a separate tax and not hidden under the name of a fund or in any other way concealed. He felt that if the library tax were specifically announced as a tax it would put library interests to the front. Mr. W. C. Kimball spoke briefly of the movement toward a state library commission which has been developed in New Jersey through the state library association, and Miss L. E. Stearns, who was a welcome guest at the meeting, said a few words on the work of the Wisconsin commission.

The discussion of the question of cheaper postage for library books, which was to have been opened by Mr. C. A. Nelson and Mr. A. E. Bostwick, was postponed until the next meeting, owing to the absence of the principal speakers and the lateness of the hour.

WILLIAM HENRY DUNCAN, JR., *Secretary*.

The March meeting of the club will be a joint meeting with the New York State Library Association. (See p. 75.)

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: H. L. Prince, Librarian U. S. Patent Office.

Secretary: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

Treasurer: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

Meetings: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 44th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University, on the evening of Jan. 10, with Vice-president Capt. H. L. Prince in the chair.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of Mrs. L. C. Waring, of the Library of the Bureau of Ethnology. The secretary then read a communication from Mr. Herbert Putnam regretting his inability to accept the presidency at the present time and declining that office. This was accepted, and the association proceeded to vote for a president, resulting in the election of Capt. Howard L. Prince. The election of a vice-president was deferred until the next meeting.

A communication from Mr. E. C. Richardson, president of the New Jersey Library Association, suggesting a joint spring meeting of the associations of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Washington, was read and accepted, and referred to the executive committee for further arrangements.

The committee on handbook made report, action upon its suggestions being deferred until the next meeting.

The first paper of the evening was by Mr. A. R. Spofford, entitled "Rare books," and was an instructive dissertation on the various circumstances that tend to make books rare, illustrated by the citation of many references.

Mr. W. P. Cutter then gave an interesting talk on "Some lessons from European libraries," his conclusions and experiences being the result of personal observations of European libraries during the summer of 1899.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The school enjoyed most heartily the visit of Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, who gave two addresses, Jan. 15 and 16, on "The circuit rider of to-day" and "The child and his book." We were much impressed in Miss Stearns's visit, as in Mr. Hutchins's last year, with the importance of the personal side of state work. An intelligent user of libraries said to me lately, in speaking gratefully of a reference librarian, "He knows the resources of his library, and he cares supremely to have me, an individual reader, get the right book."

It is the vital problem of library work for the state to secure the added intelligence, the technical skill, and the economic gain of a large center, without losing the sympathetic effort of the librarian. This must always be a large factor in bringing together the book and the reader, which is after all the essence of library work. To secure this nice balance of intelligence and sympathy is the chief study in developing the library for the blind, which is a part of the home education work of the New York state library. A finding-list of the library, containing about 300 books, has just been issued, and can be had free.

Most city libraries contemplating a department for the blind are startled by its cost compared with its probable use. The books are expensive, most of the readers are unable or unwilling to visit a library, and there are few blind people in any one community except in the very large cities. As Mr. Utey pointed out in his paper on "Books for the blind," read before the meeting of the A. L. A. in 1898 (L. J. 23: C93-95), the circulation of books for the blind is most easily and appropriately done from a state center. We are hoping to secure the advantages of this plan and to avoid its disadvantages. Our readers seem to enjoy very much the correspondence which we carry on with them in their own language, as it were, by the use of the kleidograph, an ingenious special typewriter. We send out letters which they can read with their fingers, and in reply they use this machine or writing tablets.

Our plan involves securing the co-operation of libraries throughout the state, and of individuals, one or more in each town, who will be glad to act as references for blind readers, to visit them in their homes, explaining the plans of the library and the ease with which they may share its unusual opportunities. Since about 80% of the blind lose their sight in adult life, the first step consists in circulating alphabets and primers and persuading those who have not learned to read type for the blind that it is worth while for them to put forth a little persistent effort. These local co-operators may also be of great service in securing gifts of money to be spent in printing new books. By the gift of a man interested in our state work

for the blind the "Bonnie brier bush" has just been printed. The total expense of 50 copies, including making the plates, was \$176. The most urgent need in developing libraries for the blind is the production of new books. Indeed, it cannot be done on any large scale until the present literature is multiplied many times.

It is not unlikely that Wisconsin will be the first western state to undertake this work through its efficient library commission, which succeeds to such a remarkable degree in combining the two essential elements of successful state work for libraries.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The University of the State of New York has issued State library bulletin, Library school, no. 6, December, 1899, devoted to the 13th annual report of the library school for 1899 (p. 272-295, O. 5c.). This covers the year ending Sept. 30, 1899. The class of 1899 opened on Oct. 5, 1898, with 10 seniors and 34 juniors, representing 14 states and two foreign countries, and numbering more college students than were listed in any previous year. At the final examinations in June degrees and diplomas were conferred on three of the class of 1899 and on one of the class of 1897. The events of special importance in the year—introduction of elective system, annual visit to libraries, etc.—have already been recorded in these columns. The report includes a tabulated record of A. L. A. attendance of school students from 1887-99, reports on the alumni association and on the summer school course, and lists of faculty, lecturers, and students. It is an interesting summary of varied activities and earnest work. Mr. Dewey concludes with a short appreciation of the school's development. "It has proved," he says, "as was prophesied, as important a step as was the founding of the first normal schools for training teachers. Without it the American library could never have attained its full place as the necessary complement of the school in any complete and satisfactory system of public education."

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Since the opening of the second term three lectures have been given before the library school students in the course of lectures by visiting librarians. Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, gave the class the benefit of his experience in the "Management of branch libraries"; Miss Frances Olcott, of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg, told them about the "Home libraries" under her charge; and Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, gave them a very vivid and interesting description of her work in connection with that commission, arousing their enthusiasm for the missionary side of library work, as well as giving them an hour of keen enjoyment by her recital of the many amusing incidents inseparable from her travels through the state.

The usual spring visit made by the school to libraries of other cities will not be made this year. In its place the school will attend the Montreal conference of the A. L. A., stopping on the way at Albany.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The Illinois State Library School will have charge of the course in library science at the Winona Assembly, in Indiana, in July and August. Miss Frances Simpson, Ph.M., Northwestern, 1884, Library School, 1888-89, will be the chief instructor. Miss Simpson is now cataloger at the Chicago Institute, which is the school of pedagogy recently founded by Mrs. Emmons Blaine, with Col. Francis Parker as president.

Miss Margaret Mann, senior instructor in the library school, will have charge of one session of the next annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association, which will be devoted to instruction.

Miss Henriette von Briesen, of the senior class, left the school at Christmas to become librarian of the public library at Manitowoc, Wis.

At the January meeting of the Library Club Dr. D. K. Dodge, head professor of English in the University of Illinois, gave an address on old Norse literature. At the meeting of the club on Feb. 6 the subject for discussion was "Paternalism in libraries." Miss Shawhorn, of the senior class, was the leader, Misses Spellman and Pickrell, of the junior class, presented special phases of the question, and general discussion was very free.

The department of history in the university has recently furnished four lectures to the advanced bibliography class; American history, by head professor Greene; Mediæval history, by Mr. Alvord; and Modern European history, by Dr. Schoolcraft. Head professor Kinley gave a lecture to the same class later on Social science.

The bulletins made by the students last semester were sent to Chicago for exhibit at the February meeting of the Chicago Library Club.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director*.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

It is planned to hold in connection with the next session of the university summer school a course in library training, under the auspices of the state library commission and under direction of Miss Gratia Countryman.

WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

The Wisconsin Free Library Commission announces the sixth annual session of the Summer School for Library Training, to be held in Madison, as a department of the summer session of the University of Wisconsin, from July 9 to Aug. 31, 1900. The course will be under the direction of Miss Cornelia Marvin, instructor of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. Full information regarding course, tuition, and requirements of application may be secured by addressing Miss Marvin, Free Library Commission, Madison, Wis.

Reviews.

LAWLER, John. Book auctions in England in the seventeenth century (1676-1700); with a chronological list of the book auctions of the period. London, Elliot Stock, [1899.] 44+241 p. 16°. (The book-lover's library.)

The selling of books by auction was begun in England in 1676 by William Cooper. The practice met with immediate favor, and from that time to 1700 upwards of 100 auctions were held, some 350,000 works were sold, and the total sum of money realized from them was a quarter of a million pounds, or three-quarters of a million in the English money of to-day. In the present volume Mr. Lawler gives, at some length, the details of the auctions of the last quarter of the 17th century, and incidentally shows that they gave a considerable impetus to the spread of literature. The chapters are as follows: William Cooper's sales, 1676-88; Edward Millington's book-auctions, 1680-98; other English book-auctioneers of the 17th century; Dr. Bernard's library, 1686; John Dunton's Irish book-auctions.

The first library sold by auction in England was that of Lazarus Seaman, D.D., of London, on Oct. 31, 1676. It contained over 7000 different works (more than 15,000 volumes), and, as might be expected, most of them related to its owner's profession. The great majority of the libraries sold by auction, as described in this volume, were those of clergymen. The largest sales were from the stock of Richard Davis, the Oxford bookseller. The catalogs for the three sales of this collection describe over 22,000 works.

Perhaps the point of greatest interest brought out by Mr. Lawler is that two centuries ago books were not bought for their rarity, nor for furniture, nor as works of art, but only for their contents. John Eliot's Indian Bible sold for 19 shillings; the edition of Homer, printed in 1488, for 9 shillings. For many of the books sold there is no record of the price received.

S: H. R.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIANS. The report of the second annual meeting of the Association of Medical Librarians, held Oct. 5, 1899, is given in the December number of *Medical Libraries*. At that meeting a new constitution was adopted, and the executive committee for 1900 was elected, as follows: Dr. G. M. Gould, Dr. J. C. Merrill, and C. P. Fisher.

The *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* for January-February inaugurates its supplementary series of *Blätter für Volksbibliotheken und Lesehallen* with nos. 1-2. This contains a review of the libraries and reading-rooms of Berlin by Arend Buchholz; a study of the development

of public libraries in Austria, by E. Reyer, and a miscellany of general library and bibliographical news and information. In the *Centralblatt* the leading articles are on the progress made in palæography with the aid of photography, by Gabriel Meyer; and a full directory of the officers of the libraries of Germany and Austro-Hungary, arranged alphabetically by name of place.

The *Library Association Record* for January contains a survey of "English bibliography before and after 1600," by A. W. Pollard, and a consideration of "The provision of technical books in public libraries from the technical education fund," by Alfred Lancaster.

PUTNAM, Herbert. What it means to be a librarian. (*In Ladies' Home Journal*, Feb., 1900, p. 22.)

A condensed statement of the general characteristics of modern library service, and the chief qualifications required in it; evidently intended for the information of aspirants for library work.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL LIBRARIES. Chamberlin, F. W.

What has happened to the Sunday-school library? (*In Sunday-School Times*, Jan. 27, 42:52-53.)

The Sunday-school library may be an unusual power for good—and many have ignored it. Its vital need is a live librarian.

— CONANT, Hamilton S. The public library and the Sunday-school. (*In Congregationalist*, Jan. 4) 2 col.

Calls the attention of Sunday-school teachers to the use they may make of the public library in studying the life of Christ—the subject of the International Sunday-school lessons for the next year and a half. In Massachusetts a list of books on Christ has been prepared for the use of Sunday-school teachers, and this list, which is recommended by Dr. Dunning, Dr. Schauffler, Dr. Peloubet, and others, is published as a part of Mr. Conant's article.

LOCAL.

Beaver Falls, Pa. Soon after the announcement of Andrew Carnegie's library gift the local school board offered to furnish a site and guarantee a \$3000 maintenance fund provided the library be placed in its charge. In a letter addressed to the secretary of the board, on Jan. 24, Mr. Carnegie stated that he preferred to have the town council rather than the school board control the library.

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie F. L. The library gives the following comparative abstract of its work: Books added 1898-1900, 6629; increase in readers for same period, 3020; circulation, 1899, 107,404, an increase of 50,329 over that of 1897; fiction percentage, 1897, 72.9 %, 1899, 67.8 %.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. Sunday opening was put in operation in all the library's branches but two on Jan. 21. The hours of opening were from 2 to 6 p.m., and included the circulating

as well as the reading-room departments. It is proposed to extend the plan to the two remaining branches at an early date.

On Jan. 8 was held the formal opening of the Williamsburg branch, at 380 Bedford ave., which has been in operation for some months past. The rooms were attractively decorated, addresses were made by ex-Mayor Boody, Mr. Bostwick, and others, and music was furnished by the St. Cecilia's Guild of Christ Church.

The travelling library department of the library, conducted by Mrs. Craigie, has placed a collection of books on forestry in the Litchfield mansion in Prospect Park, where two rooms have been assigned for library purposes by Park Commissioner Brower. In addition to the books there will be displayed numerous plates of birds, flowers, and trees.

Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L. Possibly others may be interested in a short account of a meeting of the Buffalo Public Library staff, which was held on Thursday evening, Jan. 11. It is the second meeting of the kind, one having been held last year in a similar way.

Some weeks ago the superintendent gave notice, by means of the staff bulletin board, that he would like to meet all heads of departments, enumerating them, at his own home, on Jan. 11, where each one would be asked to present and read a report of his own department's work for the year 1899, and that any suggestions for the betterment of the department would be gladly heard. The young folk assembled at 8 o'clock, and from that time until 10.30 the reports were read with a running fire of comment between. The comment, according to true A. L. A. precedent, had to be cut short more than we liked, "because of the length of the program." Many, indeed most, of the reports were very interesting, and contained pertinent suggestions for improvement during the coming year.

Reports were made by Mr. Fletcher, of the ordering department; Miss Chandler, of the cataloging department; Mrs. Fulton, of the circulation department, her report including reports by Miss Rathbone, of the open-shelf room, and Miss Coit, of the children's room; Mrs. Ransom, of the periodical-room, Mr. Shepard, of the reference-room, Mr. Fowler for the stations, Mr. Leland for the public schools and travelling libraries, Miss Bushnell for the Monroe street branch, Miss Provoost for the binding, Miss Blossom for registration, and Mr. Ramsey for the newspaper-room.

It seems to me that the good accomplished is by no means to be measured by the reports themselves. It requires much consideration and much capacity to sum up masses of details into results and tendencies, and that very consideration of what each one is accomplishing has a very awakening result.

In the reports the superintendent has a mass of material which he again sifts and weighs and combines for his own report, made later to the directors.

After the business meeting was over came a little time for talk and very simple refreshments.

THERESA ELMENDORF.

Burlington (Ia.) P. L. The librarian's report for the year ending Dec. 31, '99, gives the following statistics: Added 443; total 17,720. Issued, home use 57,308 (fict. 31,998; juv. 11,784), a net increase of 12,000 over the preceding year. New cards issued 513; total registration 4740. Receipts \$3963.90; expenses \$3418.75.

Carlisle, Pa. Bossler Memorial L. The J. Herman Bossler Memorial Library was formally opened on Jan. 30. The chief address was by Dr. G. E. Reed, state librarian and president of Dickinson College, on "The uses and abuses of public libraries."

Cleveland (O.) P. L. The library has issued a New Year's book-mark for the children of the library league, this being the fifth of the special league book-marks. It is as follows:

"A happy New Year to you, boys and girls!

"We hope that you will enjoy the library this year more than ever before, and here is an idea which may help you to do so.

"Do you know that some people become tired of reading because they read only one kind of books, nothing but stories, perhaps? Now the mind needs different kinds of thoughts to enjoy and feed on, if it is to grow strong and healthy, just as the body needs different kinds of food.

"Suppose you plan your reading this year so that besides the stories you read you also read one book each month on a different subject, choosing your subjects for the months somewhat as follows:

January—Animals.

February—Great inventions.

March—How to make and do things.

April—Science.

May—History of our own country.

June—Life of some great man or woman.

July—Travel.

August—History of some other country.

September—Flowers.

October—Birds.

November—Outdoor sports.

December—Poetry.

"Try this plan, and see if it does not give you more pleasure, and show you that the library is a great treasure-house of interesting things which you want to know about, some of which you have never even dreamed of before."

Columbus (O.) P. School L. (23d rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '99.) Added 5246; total 37,967. Issued, home use 141,170 (fict. 50+); ref. use in reading-room and school-rooms, 188,023. Receipts and expenses \$2849.58.

The department of school classics has been especially satisfactory. From this collection 54,512 v. were issued, being an average of 5451 per month of the school year, and each issue meaning the use of a book for four weeks, or an entire school month. Of the total circulation, home and reference, of 329,193, 273,753 were to children. Issues to children are limited to one volume of fiction a week during the school year.

Small branch libraries are maintained in the

various school buildings, additional books being drawn as desired from the library.

Illinois Farmers' Institute travelling libraries. The Illinois Farmers' Institute, from its headquarters in Springfield, has sent out a system of travelling libraries to the various county farmers' institutes throughout the state. Each library, in addition to a good collection of general literature, contains a special set of books dealing with agriculture and farm subjects.

Jamestown, N. Y. James Prendergast F. L. (8th rpt.—year ending June 30, '99.) The first printed report of the library, issued in a neat pamphlet, with a frontispiece view of the library and portraits of its founders. A short historical sketch prefaces the report proper, which gives the following facts: Added 521; total 24,148. Issued, home use 62,883 (fict. 5489); juv. fict. 2056; reading-room attendance 24,021. New registration 846; cards in use 3375, "or one for every eight residents of the city."

The open-shelf corners in the reference-room and the children's room continue to give general satisfaction. Much work has been done for local study clubs in preparation of reference lists, etc.

Louisville, Ky. At a meeting of the city board of aldermen, on Jan. 16, consideration was refused of a petition presented urging that a library tax be levied in accord with the conditions of the Carnegie library gift. The petition was ironically referred to the committee on cemeteries without reading. In the board of councilmen the petition was read and referred to a special committee. It is thought that further efforts will be made to obtain acceptance of the gift.

Lowell (Mass.) P. L. The library has received from Joseph Coram, of Lowell, two large paintings by V. L. George, of Malden. The first is called the "Art of printing," and represents Gutenberg beside his press explaining the art of printing; the second illustrates "Textile industry," and is in four parts, representing weaving, spinning, dyeing, and designing.

McKeesport, Pa. On Jan. 17 the city council passed an ordinance appropriating \$3000 annually for the maintenance of the proposed Carnegie Library.

Macon, Ga. Price F. L. The Price Free Library was informally opened to the public on Jan. 6, the date of the formal opening having been indefinitely postponed. It is attractively placed in a substantial two-story brick building in a central part of the city. The first floor is given up to the library rooms, fitted with open wall shelves, while the second story is devoted to an industrial school conducted by a Hebrew aid society. The library was the plan of the late Mayor Price, of Macon, and he gave much time and care to its development. His work was supplemented and carried through mainly by T. J. Carling, a warm personal friend, who gave the building in which the library is housed. Miss Sallie Boone has been appointed librarian.

Macon (Ga.) P. L. It has been proposed by the directors to make the library free to the public, and to that end a petition has been presented to the city council asking an appropriation of \$300. If the petition is granted the present subscription plan will be abandoned.

Maryland State L., Annapolis. (Rpt., 1899.) Added, "about 3000 v. and 1000 pm." The rearrangement and cataloging of the collection was continued through the year, most important being the work done in this direction for the law library and the allied collections of Congressional documents and Maryland miscellany. "Another important and laborious undertaking was the examination of numerous pamphlets, a collection of years, which had been stowed away in every available corner, in closets, galleries, and the storerooms in the basement." Effort has been made to collect and arrange a complete set of state publications, but the result "has not proved satisfactory." All books relating to Maryland have also been brought together, showing "a very small collection on this most important subject," in all only 252 volumes and 439 pamphlets. The books generally are said to be in good condition, and only a few missing volumes are reported.

Massachusetts State L. (Rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, '99.) Added 4084 v., 4391 pm. One of the most important gifts is a complete set of the *Liberty Bell*, one of the rarer anti-slavery publications; the set comprises 15 volumes, covering the years 1839–1858, except for 1840, 1850, 1854, 1855, and 1857, in which there was no issue.

"The index to 'current events,' which was begun in 1892, is becoming increasingly useful, and in connection with the articles relative to New England history and genealogy, which the library is now gathering through a 'clipping bureau,' a large mass of valuable historical material which would otherwise be hidden is made accessible and useful."

The "20th annual supplement to the general catalog," covering p. 16–284, is appended.

N. Y. P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations. On Jan. 23 Assemblyman Davis introduced into the state legislature at Albany a bill removing the limit on the appropriation of \$2,500,000 authorized by act of 1897 for the erection of the new building of the New York Public Library. The bill is in the form of an amendment to the act of 1897, and its effect will be to permit as large an expenditure for the new library building as the authorities may deem necessary. In an interview regarding the amendment Dr. Billings said: "One need for a larger appropriation for the new library is that iron and other materials necessary for the construction of the building, and labor also, have advanced at least 25 per cent. in cost since the 1897 act was passed. Also, the amount fixed by that act was not computed upon any arbitrary estimate, and was made before any plans or specifications had been prepared. When the original appropriation was determined upon, the material to be used in con-

structing the building had not been determined upon. The passage of the new bill will not commit the city to anything, but will simply give the municipal authorities a free hand to settle as they please the kind of building that should be erected and the sort of material that shall be employed. The architects have devised a large and beautiful structure that may be built of stone, but which more suitably should be of marble. As a matter of fact, it was proposed at the outset to use Indiana limestone, but the present appropriation would not permit even limestone being used, and I am doubtful if under existing conditions it would defray the cost of even a brick building.

"As no bids have yet been received, we have no definite knowledge as to what the new library will cost, but it seemed the wisest course to the authorities to free themselves of the trammels and limitations of the 1897 measure. In the first place, it was quite apparent that we should want as large a building as had been planned, because the number of readers is constantly increasing, and in the last year alone 50,000 volumes and 100,000 pamphlets were received, making in themselves a good library. It now seems probable, also, that there will be a consolidation of the circulating libraries of the city, and that the New York Public Library will ultimately have charge of the circulation throughout the metropolis. That work alone would require a great deal of space in the central building, so that it does not seem possible to reduce the size of the new library as planned.

"It must not be forgotten that this library will be a city building, and that it will belong to the city. The municipal authorities will undoubtedly be swayed by public opinion as to what form that building shall take. Our interests are mainly centered in getting a building commensurate with the needs of the library, but if it is decided to put up a handsome monumental structure which will be a credit to the metropolis of the United States, we shall, of course, not object."

On Dec. 21 the library received from Miss Helen Gould the Berrian collection of books and pamphlets on Mormonism, which will be placed in the Lenox building.

The January number of the library *Bulletin* contains summarized statistics for the year 1899, as follows: Additions 59,377 v., 105,396 pm., 55,840 v. and 35,451 pm. were cataloged, and 224,716 catalog cards were written. The total number of readers was 115,246; 501,092 v. were consulted, not including those on the free reference shelves. "There are now on the shelves of the Astor and Lenox buildings, available for readers, 479,359 v. and 129,406 pm., and there are uncataloged and unaccessioned, and therefore not yet available, 3100 v. and 49,500 pm., making a total of 52,600 pieces to be cataloged." The large accessions have greatly crowded the shelves of the Astor, "making it necessary to fill up nearly all the alcoves with cases, and still further crowding, with double banking on the shelves, may be expected in the near future." It has for this reason been necessary to withdraw all alcove priv-

ileges until the completion of the new building. A view of the latest perspective drawing of the new building is given.

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. The library has made a new form of adoption of the decimal classification by using its classes on the façade of its fine new building, which it expects to occupy about next September.

Omaha (Neb.) P. L. Statistics for the year 1899 are given as follows: Added 3914; total 51,789. Issued, home use 191,258 (juv. 59,737); ref. use 34,615. New cards issued 3987. Cards in use 13,039.

The library was described at length in a good illustrated article in the New Year number of the *Omaha Illustrated Bee* for Dec. 31, 1899.

Orange (N. J.) F. L. (16th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 462. Issued, home use 40,487 (fict. 75%), of which 9291 were juvenile. Receipts \$7069.92; expenses \$6447.36.

The adoption of open shelves and of the two-book system has resulted in largely increased use of the library. The special incident of the year was the offer of a \$50,000 library building from Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Stickler as a memorial to their son. The plans for the building submitted by Brower & Albro have been selected, and the contracts will soon be awarded. The library lot on Main street and Essex avenue will be the site of the new structure, which is to be 110 x 100, one-storied, in the Grecian style. It will be of Indiana limestone, with a red tile roof, and will have a stack-room with book capacity of 30,000 v. McKim, Mead & White will act as supervising architects.

Palo Alto (Cal.) P. L. The library is described in an illustrated article in the *Century edition* of the *Palo Alto Live Oak* for Jan. 1, 1900. Established in 1896 by the local woman's club, it was strengthened by the transfer of the Y. M. C. A. collection, and by 1898 it had been opened in a convenient room, with voluntary assistance from the women interested. In 1899 funds were secured by public subscription, a regular librarian was engaged, and a total of 660 books was added. To-day the library contains 1270 v. and issues about 1000 books a month to nearly 600 borrowers; it receives a city appropriation of \$20 monthly, and its future development seems fairly assured.

Pasadena (Cal.) P. L. Plans are being prepared by local architects for an addition to the library building, to cost not less than \$9000. Provision will be made for a separate juvenile department, and additional room in the reference and circulating departments. The material to be used will be green stone, to match the rest of the building.

Passaic (N. J.) F. P. L. (Rpt., 1899.) Total 8000. Issued, home use 54,212 (fict. 19,721); reading-room attendance 74,565. The most important event of the year has been the opening of the children's room of the Dundee branch, in the heart of the mill section of the city. This has proved a great success. The branch was supported during the year by a donation

of \$2000. The course of entertainments planned for the present season by the library association will furnish funds for a large supply of new books.

Peabody Institute L. UHLER, P. R. Library of the Peabody Institute. (*In New Pedagogue*, January, 1900. 3: 74-8.)

The second in the series of articles on "Libraries of Baltimore," of which the first, describing the Enoch Pratt Library, appeared in February, 1899. Mr. Uhler gives a brief history of the library, of its collections, and of its catalog.

Philadelphia. F. L. of Economics and Politics. (2d rpt.—year ending Oct., '99.) During the nine months, October to June, the library was open daily, including Sundays, from 2 until 10 p.m., those in attendance giving their time voluntarily. Accessions for the year were 110, exclusive of pamphlets, which now amount to 1449. There were 10 lectures delivered during the winter, and the library rooms have been used for meetings by 12 different associations. The "Handbook of labor literature," compiled by Miss Helen Marot, was published by means of a special financial contribution.

Philadelphia Mercantile L. At the annual stockholders' meeting, on Jan. 16, a resolution was adopted authorizing the sale of the site of the present library building. It is stated that the probable result of this action may be the merging of the Mercantile Library into the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Rochester (N. H.) P. L. The librarian's report for 1899 gives the following facts: Added 327; total 6814. Issued 26,008 (fict. 13,881; juv. 6806); reading-room attendance 3694. No. cardholders 3340.

Sandusky (O.) L. A. A site has been secured for the library building to be given to Sandusky by Andrew Carnegie.

St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L. An effort has been made on the part of the local Central Labor Union and others interested to secure a library donation for a new building from Andrew Carnegie. In responding to the request Mr. Carnegie said that "he had found so many prompt acceptances of his offer to give money to build a library if the community would maintain it that he must stop, at least for the present, making further promises. He has now to take care of the payments for those already promised."

The library has decided to adopt the plan of charging a small fee for extra copies of popular novels in large demand.

San Francisco Mercantile L. It is announced that the directors have decided to lease or sell the library building at Vanness and Golden Gate avenues, and to move to a more central location in the business district. The present library room is handsome and adequate, but the site is too far from the centre of the town, and the offices on the two upper floors do not rent. The building will probably be converted

into a private hotel. The Mercantile is one of the oldest libraries in the city, but it has had many vicissitudes, due to unfortunate business conditions. Now, however, its revenue has been increased, and there seems promise of a restoration of prosperity.

Scranton (Pa.) P. L. (9th rpt., 1899.) Added 2613; purchased 2067; total 35,832. Issued, home use 121,022 (fict. 73.4%); lib. use, 5509. No record is kept of ref. use. New registration 1750; total cards in force 7248; "there are also 500 extra or students' cards now valid." Receipts \$14,268.13; expenses \$13,656.85.

The decrease in circulation which has continued throughout the year is attributed in part to the increased reading of newspapers and magazines, and also to what Mr. Carr justly notes as "the somewhat marked stress laid upon a few of the 'best selling books' of the day." This, it is pointed out, "has caused a feverish rush and demand for certain four or five extremely advertised and overrated novels far beyond their real merits or permanent value. It is not within the scope or means of any public library, nor just to its other users, to supply the hundreds of copies that would suffice for such exceptional demands. Lacking such free supply, large numbers of individuals have purchased and read the books in question, and thereby lessened by so much their borrowing from the public libraries." These causes have contributed especially to lessen the reading of fiction, in which class the percentage has fallen from 79.3 in the years of greatest circulation to 73.4. In the reference department all facilities of space and service have been taxed, and the improvement of these facilities is needed.

"The decrease in circulation of light reading, already spoken of, served to lessen our bills for rebinding to an appreciable extent. On the other hand the prevailing influence of greed and 'commercialism' has led nearly all publishers into a pernicious and regrettable use of flimsy binding and inferior paper. This is the case with both cheap and high-priced books alike. Such practice entails an unreasonable burden upon all libraries, and one likely to grow to large proportions. It is already a difficult matter to make more than five or six issues of a current new book without calling upon the bindery to re sew and replace it in the covers. Nor are the other wearing qualities of most books, as now produced, at all equivalent to the prices asked for them."

Springfield (Mass.) City L. A fine Cromwell exhibit was shown at the art museum of the library, in connection with the special bibliographical "Cromwell list" recently published. The exhibit was planned in view of the lives of Cromwell now appearing in two American magazines, and of the literature evoked by the tercentenary of his birth, celebrated last year. The library happens to be unusually rich in pictorial material bearing on Cromwell and his times, and from its histories, special books, prints, and photographs an interesting selection was made. The pictures were effectively ar-

ranged on screens, and the portraits included many fine representations of Cromwell, of Charles I. and the royal family, of Milton, Hampden, Fairfax, and many others. A type-written biographical note was attached to each portrait. The exhibit is to be shown during the next few months at several other libraries, among them Pittsfield, Concord, Northampton, South Hadley, Amherst, and Norwich, Ct. The greater part of the edition of the "Cromwell list" has been disposed of, and the price has been raised to 50 cents.

The library committee have decided to charge a small sum, probably two cents, per day for the issue of new novels in large demand, the charge being necessary to defray the cost of extra copies required to meet demands.

On Jan. 8 the library issued invitations to about 400 persons connected with the local street railway to visit the Horace Smith collection of casts of Greek and Renaissance sculpture in the art museum on the evening of the 10th from 6 to 10 o'clock. The invitation was accompanied by a circular descriptive of the collection and its general scope. Ever since the collection was installed the library association had been wishing to open it evenings, but decided that it would be too expensive, in view of the small number of people who would come any one evening. Then it was thought wise to try the plan of opening it on an occasional evening, and after still further thought it was decided to open it on special evenings, and for those evenings to send out invitations to a sufficient number of people to insure a good attendance. If to these invitations there is a free response, the plan will be tried on other occasions and with other groups of people. The association adopted the plan of taking given groups of people because of the convenience in issuing invitations, and also because people interested in the same line of work are likely to find a source of pleasure in meeting each other at the museum.

Stanford Univ. L. The new library building was dedicated on the afternoon of Jan. 11. The exercises were opened with an address by Herbert Nash, the librarian, reviewing the university's efforts to secure a suitable library, and the success which has been attained thus far. George E. Howard, professor of history at Stanford, followed with an address on "The social meaning of the open library," tracing the progress in the direction of the open library that had been made in the last 25 years, or since the United States government first made investigation of library systems in 1876. Dr. Benjamin Ide Wheeler also spoke, and a short address was made by Rev. Horatio Stebbins.

The new library was given to the university two years ago by Thomas Welton Stanford, Senator Stanford's brother, whose home is in Australia. To the building Mrs. Stanford has contributed three beautiful stained glass windows. The building is the first to be erected in the series of the outer quadrangle, and together with that of the assembly hall, stands immedi-

ately east of the main entrance, above which, towers the colossal memorial arch. The building is two-storied, with a round tower and a jutting wing; it is of buff sandstone, and its ground dimensions are 84 x 160 feet. The reading-room is 69 x 70 feet, with provision for 300 students. Here are placed 26 reading-tables. Down the centre of each of these runs a partition some 14 inches high, dividing the table lengthwise, and from these smaller divisional boards, running at right angles, divide either side into individual study sections. The tables are lighted by individual goose-neck incandescent lamps, and by day the whole room receives abundant but tempered light from the stained glass dome 40 feet above the floor.

Besides the reading-room there are, on the first floor, four smaller rooms, each about 40 x 25 feet. One of these is to contain the Hopkins railway library, a second is termed the conference-room, where students may repair for discussion; another is the cataloging room, and a fourth the reference-room. At either side of the stack-room are the offices of the librarian and the assistant librarian. Up the marble stairs one passes to the second floor, where, about the central space, extends a balcony with copper railing and square marble pedestals, upon each of which statues are to be placed. From this balcony one enters the seminar rooms, six in number, devoted to English history, economics, French and German, and Latin and Greek, with one as yet unassigned.

South of the main building is the stack-room, 70 x 74 feet, with a capacity on its three floors of 200,000 volumes. This, with the shelving space of the smaller rooms, allows storage for 250,000 volumes. Lifts running between the three floors of the stacks carry the books to the reading-room floor.

The library of the university contains at present 43,000 bound volumes and 1800 pamphlets. Funds having now become available, this number will be added to rapidly. During the coming year alone \$12,000 is to be expended on books. This means an addition of approximately 10,000 volumes for that length of time. Beyond the regular endowment of the university there is available for the purchase of books moneys secured from registration fees and from the profits of the two dormitories, Encina Hall and Roble Hall.

Steuersville, O. On Jan. 9 the city council passed by unanimous vote the ordinance accepting Andrew Carnegie's gift of \$50,000 for a public library.

Washington, D. C. L. of Congress. The report of the Librarian of Congress for the year ending June 30, 1899, has been issued in a bound pamphlet of 40 pages. The main features of this report have already been summarized in these columns from advance proofs. (*See L. J.*, Dec. '99, p. 672.)

The report of the Register of Copyrights is given as an appendix. It shows a total of 80,968 entries of title made during the year.

Of this number 73,015 were by citizens or residents of the United States. There were 25,155 certificates and copies of record of copyright furnished, 22,834 being for works by authors who are citizens or residents of the United States; 1218 assignments of copyright were recorded and certified. Copyright deposits for the year aggregate 120,143 articles, 5834 being "books proper." The net money receipts were \$57,858.10. The weekly catalog of copyright entries has been carried on, covering during the year 3693 pages of octavo print. "The catalog is prepared on cards, and each article is represented by two cards. These cards become part of the permanent index of the copyright office, each book or other article deposited being indexed by title or author, and also under the name of the copyright proprietor."

"The mail matter required to be handled in the copyright office is steadily increasing. During the fiscal year the letters received numbered 67,666, while there were dispatched 98,729 separate pieces of mail matter." There were more than 30,000 letters received which required special attention. Mr. Solberg gives also full statistical tabulations of fees, entries, mail matter, and other details of the work of the office, the volume of which is far in excess of the provision made for handling it.

A short biographical sketch of the late John Russell Young forms the first appendix to the report.

The newspaper reading-room of the library was opened on Jan. 22. For the present this department is closed at 6 p.m., but it is hoped that Congress may make an appropriation sufficient to cover the expense of opening until 10 p.m.

— *Music in the Congressional Library.* (*In Music*, Jan., 1900. 17:270-272.)

Describes the character of the music collection in the Library of Congress, most of which is received through the copyright department.

Washington, D. C. Smithsonian Institution L. (*In rpt. of S. P. Langley, year ending June 30, '99.*) "The number of volumes, parts of volumes, pamphlets, and charts added to the library has aggregated 36,663. A considerable number of these were retained in the working libraries of the Institution and the Museum, but the great majority were transferred to the Smithsonian deposit in the Library of Congress. The improved facilities for reference and care of books in the new building make it possible to send to the Library of Congress a much greater proportion of books received than heretofore, and it is gratifying to report that most of the vast mass of Smithsonian material that had accumulated in the old library has now been arranged in a systematic manner, and is available for study."

"A special room is being fitted up in the Institution for the care of engravings and works relating to the fine arts. . . . Lack of sufficient room prevents the introduction of desired improvements. The cataloging and read-

ing rooms that seemed ample for the growth of many years, have in a brief time become greatly crowded, and additional quarters will soon be absolutely necessary."

Wichita (Kan.) P. L. By a resolution passed on Jan. 22, the city council decided to appropriate \$50 per month for the support of the library, provided it was made free to the public and that the rules governing the Indianapolis Public Library were adopted. The general membership fee of \$1 will be abolished. The new plan is made as an experiment, the appropriation being authorized for eight months only.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. The library has just added 15 feet to the front of the older portion of its building. The addition harmonizes well with the remainder of the front. By the addition, rooms in three stories were much enlarged—in fact, nearly doubled in capacity.

In the basement more room was obtained for the storage of books. On the first floor the delivery-room of the circulating department was enlarged. The room as changed is admirably lighted and ventilated; it has been painted and tinted in shades of green and newly furnished. A long counter enables more attendants to serve the public at the same time and secures greater expedition in giving out books. The new room has 3000 or 4000 volumes of late publications on shelves around the sides, which users of the circulating department may rummage among freely, just as the users of the reference department have hitherto been allowed to rummage among a large collection of books. An attendant will be in the new room to keep books in order and to protect the books. In the reference department the library lost a number of books when it displayed those on the shelves of the reference-room. It put an attendant in the room who does work there, but whose business is, first of all, to quietly guard the books. We have lost nothing since. So we concluded to begin with an unobtrusive attendant in the circulating department delivery room. Our idea is that it is not proper to put temptation in the way of people without gently trying to prevent stealing.

The library of the Worcester District Medical Society has hitherto occupied the second story. This library can be used exactly as the books in the intermediate department of the Free Public Library are used. They can be had for use within the building or be taken home, by permission of the librarian or such assistants as he chooses to delegate authority to. This library is by far the most valuable medical library in Massachusetts outside of Boston; it is endowed, and buys its own books. The Free Public Library gives it the use of rooms.

The officers of the medical society were induced to move its library up one story. This change enabled the Free Public Library to use the second story of the enlarged older portion of its building for the benefit of children. In the front portion of the building is a delivery-room and a reference-room for children under the high school age. It is intended to have all young children go to the children's room for

study and for books to take home. An attendant of tried fitness will be present outside the counter to aid children and to guard the 2000 books from which they can select books to take home, and the books of reference. Children can also use the catalog and select books placed in a stack behind the counter. Children will enter and leave the rooms by a turnstile and have a separate entrance to their rooms from the sidewalk.

The Free Public Library has had these changes in mind for ten years, but after putting up its new building did not like to ask the city in hard times to spend the amount of money needed in making them. On the revival of business in 1899 a successful effort was made to get the money needed, and the present year the city will make an increased appropriation for running the new department and for affording added facilities to grown-up persons, both in the circulating and reference departments.

SAMUEL S. GREEN, *Librarian*.

FOREIGN.

Belfast (Irel.) F. P. L. (11th rpt. — 1898-99.) In the reference library, now containing 19,283 v., there were 30,227 readers, to whom 64,202 v. were issued. The number of readers showed an increase of 349, and the volumes issued a decrease of 1242, as compared with the previous year's statistics. In the lending library 174,991 v. were issued (66% being fiction) from a total stock of 19,400 v. The issue represents an average of 21 volumes to each borrower. There are 8094 borrowers' tickets in use. The home circulation showed a decrease of 17,771 v. In the news-room there was an attendance of 1,202,047, or a daily average of 4020. Lists are given showing "number of times notable and popular books have been issued during the year" in both reference and circulating departments. In the former Quain's "Anatomy" leads with 307 issues, Juvenal and Lucretius following with 274 and 260 issues respectively; in the latter first place is given to Shakespeare's works, with 176 issues, "Pickwick papers," with 139, and "Lorna Doone" and "Crockett's Red axe," with 135 and 104 issues respectively.

Manchester (Eng.) P. F. L. (47th rpt., 1898-99.) Added 12,867 (ref. lib. 3604; lending lib. 9263); total 279,957; lost and not paid for 22. Issued, home use 870,401; ref. lib. use 410,116; children's branch reading-room use 513,170; branch newsrooms use 74,445. The total use of books "has fallen below the numbers of the preceding five years" — a result attributed to improved trade conditions, continued fine weather, and multiplication of cheap newspapers and periodicals; also to the fact that the reference library was partly closed for six weeks during repainting. The total number of visits to libraries and newsrooms is estimated as 5,594,661; the total Sunday attendance was 348,586. There are 44,647 cardholders.

Montreal, Can. On Jan. 16 a public meeting was held in the Chateau de Ramezay to consider the establishment of a public library for Mon-

trear. Mayor Prefontaine occupied the chair, and made a short introductory address, urging that public sympathy be actively enlisted in favor of the proposed library. He praised highly the work of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, which has established the nucleus of a library in the Chateau de Ramezay, and referred to the clause in the charter which permits the establishment of a library. He urged that every effort be made to raise \$10,000 for the purpose within the year. After speeches favoring the project, the following resolutions were passed:

"Whereas, The city of Montreal does not possess a true public library worthy of its position as the commercial metropolis of Canada;

"And whereas, The beginning of a public library has been installed in the Chateau de Ramezay by the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal;

"Be it resolved, That the said society be requested and aided to open up the said library, thoroughly equipped, so that the books may be circulated among the citizens.

"Whereas, Adequate means are not available for the maintenance of a circulating library;

"Be it resolved, That the Council of the city of Montreal be requested to set apart a sufficient sum for this purpose.

"Whereas, The public library should have provided for it a regular income over and above the cost of maintenance, for the purchase of new books as they are issued;

"Be it resolved, That a committee be appointed to raise a sufficient endowment fund the revenue from which may be applied to the purchase of such books as may be required to keep the library well equipped."

A resolution was also passed providing that the government be requested to assign as part of the proposed library endowment fund the sum of \$10,000 allowed to the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society as a rebate from the price of the Chateau de Ramezay, and hitherto unpaid.

South African libraries. It may interest librarians to learn that there are libraries at Ladysmith, Greytown, Estcourt, Newcastle, and Dundee, the towns involved in the present war in South Africa. Ladysmith Library, established in 1872, has 1511 v., or perhaps we should say had that number early this year. Newcastle (1880) had 1950, and Dundee (1891) 600 v.—*Lib. World*.

Victoria (Australia) P. L., Museums and National Gallery. (Rpt., 1898.) Added 3623; total 163,965. "This total includes the volumes added to the lending library and it is clear, therefore, that the supply of new books is quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the institution. The ordinary annual increase of the reference library should not be less than 5000 volumes."

From the lending library 97,756 v. were issued to 5541 borrowers, the percentage of fiction being 52.7. It has been decided to reorganize this department, giving all borrowers access to the shelves. In the travelling libra-

ries department considerable additions are needed. In this department 19 libraries received boxes of books containing 2550 v.

Gifts and Bequests.

Canton (O.) P. L. A. As a New Year's gift, the library has received from Hon. W. W. Clark the deed of a piece of property, valued at \$10,000, to be the site of a new library building. Mr. Clark has been the president of the library association for 15 years—since the organization of the library. It is hoped that this gift may be the beginning of a vigorous movement for a new building.

Chillicothe, Mo. On Jan. 10 Andrew Carnegie offered to give Chillicothe \$25,000 for a public library building, provided the city furnish a site and guarantee \$3000 annually for maintenance.

Coal Center, Pa. On Jan. 24 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 for the erection of a public library for the benefit of the citizens of the adjoining towns of Coal Center and California, provided the two corporations furnish a suitable site and guarantee the sum of \$4000 annually for the maintenance of the library.

Covington, Ky. On Jan. 19 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$40,000 to Covington for a public library building, on condition that the city furnish a site and guarantee \$5000 yearly for maintenance. There is already a public library in process of organization, for which a library fund of \$25,000 is available under the state law.

East Orange, N. J. On Jan. 20 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 to East Orange for a public library building, provided the city furnish the site and guarantee \$5000 annually for maintenance. On Jan. 22 the city council voted unanimously to accept the offer.

Houston, Tex. Andrew Carnegie has offered to give \$50,000 for a public library, provided the city will furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation for maintenance. The offer was made originally to the local women's club, which has been active in securing the nucleus of a public library in Houston.

Lancaster, Pa. The Mechanics' Library Association received on Jan. 16 from Miss Eliza Smith, of Lancaster, the gift of a private dwelling, known as the Reynolds mansion, to be used as a public library building.

Leavenworth (Kan.) P. L. On Jan. 22 Andrew Carnegie offered to give the Leavenworth Public Library \$25,000 for a new building, on condition that the city furnish a site and guarantee \$3000 annually for its maintenance.

Lincoln, Neb. City L. The library has resumed circulation of books, and the general rebuilding of the collection after the disastrous fire of last year seems to be well under way.

The Carnegie gift for a new building has had grateful appreciation. Several offers of property for a site for the building have been made, but it is probable that the city will secure from the United States government a section of the unoccupied government square, to be devoted to library purposes.

Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. The library received on Jan. 16 from W. C. Todd a gift of \$5,000, to be devoted to the enlargement of the reading-room established by Mr. Todd.

Ottumwa, Ia. On Jan. 18 Andrew Carnegie offered to give to Ottumwa \$50,000 for the erection of a public library, provided that the city furnish a site and guarantee \$5,000 annually for maintenance. The offer will probably be accepted, as by the will of the late P. G. Ballingall the city is assured of a library site and an income of \$2,000 a year. The Ottumwa Library Association, in acknowledging the gift, "tender their co-operation to assist in carrying out the establishment of such a library." A bill has been introduced in the legislature authorizing cities of less than 25,000 population to levy a tax for library purposes. This, if passed, will permit Ottumwa to accept the gift.

San Antonio, Tex. On Jan. 17 Andrew Carnegie offered to give to San Antonio \$50,000 for a public library building, provided the city will furnish a site and guarantee \$5,000 yearly for maintenance. The offer is the result of the efforts of the women, who, since 1892, have established and maintained the small subscription library now existing in the city.

York, Pa. On Jan. 20 Andrew Carnegie offered to give \$50,000 to York for a public library building, on condition that the city furnish a site and appropriate \$5,000 a year for library maintenance. It is stated that provisions of state law will make it impossible to meet these conditions, cities of the first class only being empowered to support libraries by taxation.

Librarians.

BARBER, Mrs. Margaret C., has resigned her position as librarian of the Union Library, conducted by the W. C. T. U. of Trenton, N. J., with which she has been connected since the organization of the library in 1879. She has been succeeded by Miss Alice Rice.

BRIGHAM, Clarence S., was on Jan. 9 elected librarian of the Rhode Island Historical Society, succeeding the late Amos Perry.

BROWN, Miss Edna Adelaide, B.L.S., New York State Library School, class of '98, has been appointed special libraries custodian in the Providence (R. I.) Public Library.

COWLEY, A. E., for some years past assistant in the Bodleian Library, has been appointed to succeed Dr. Adolf Neubauer as sub-librarian of that library.

DRAPER, Miss Miriam S., of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of '95, has been appointed Children's librarian at the Children's Museum, established by the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Institute of Arts and Sciences.

FLEISCHNER, Otto, was on Jan. 12 appointed assistant librarian of the Boston Public Library. The appointment restores a position which had lapsed some years previously, the post most nearly corresponding to it having been that of librarian's secretary, last held by the late Philip Savage. Mr. Fleischner, who was born in Bohemia, came to the United States in 1876, and was for some years engaged in the book auction business with C. F. Libbie & Co. In 1891 he entered the shelf department of the Boston Public Library, and in 1895 was made head of the special libraries department, a position which he held at the time of his appointment as assistant librarian.

HARRISON, Joseph Le Roy, of the Providence Athenæum, will go to Paris in April to have charge of the installation of the A. L. A. exhibit at the Paris Exposition, of which he will remain in charge until July.

HUNT, E. B., formerly head assistant in the catalog department of the Boston Public Library, was on Feb. 2 appointed chief of the catalog and shelf departments of that library.

HUTCHINSON, Miss Susan A., has resigned the position of assistant librarian of the Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford, Ct., to become Departments librarian of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Institute of Arts and Sciences.

MARX, Miss Bertha, of the New York State Library School, 1898-99, has been appointed general assistant in the Worcester (Mass.) Public Library.

PATTEN, Frank C., for some years librarian of the Helena (Mont.) Public Library, has resigned that position to take up a course of study at Harvard University.

PLUMMER, Miss Mary Wright, will have charge of the A. L. A. exhibit at the Paris Exposition during the months of July and August. Miss Plummer will probably sail for France from Quebec immediately after the Montreal conference of the A. L. A.

Cataloging and Classification.

BISHOP, W. Warner. Books for teachers in secondary schools. (*In Educational Review*, Feb., 1900. p. 175-186.)

An excellent classed list, giving dates, publishers, and prices. It covers Bibliography and cyclopædias, Journals, Biography, History of education, Philosophy of education, Theory and practice of teaching, Psychology and its relations to education, School curriculum, and School sanitation, the cost of the entire list (214 titles) being estimated at about \$275, or with

transportation and without usual discount, \$300. The list is prefaced by a brief statement of the importance of well-selected teachers' libraries in secondary schools, where the narrowing effect of routine drill should be counteracted by professional reading broadening and informing in its tendency. The list should be useful as a guide in selecting school-room libraries.

THE BOSTON BOOK CO.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* for January begins the publication of lists of errata in Poole's index, for which memoranda from others who have noted errors are asked. It contains also a good classed "Children's reading list on art and artists," by Lida V. Thompson, of the Pratt Institute Library School, being largely an index to such articles in *St. Nicholas*; and a list of "Good stories of adventure for boys," by Elizabeth B. Clarke.

THE FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January devotes its special lists to art and artists and South Africa.

THE NEW YORK P. L. *Bulletin* for January contains a full and most interesting 11-page list of "Works relating to the Philippine Islands" contained in the library, including maps, manuscripts, and magazine articles.

THE OSTERHOUT F. L. (*Wilkes-Barre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* for January contains a first instalment of a descriptive reading-list on "Early British History."

THE SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January devotes its special reading lists to Oratory and Scotland.

UNIVERSITY OF STATE OF NEW YORK. State library bulletin, Library school, no. 5, November, 1899. Selected subject bibliographies. Albany, 1899. p. 221-266 O. 5 c.

A list that should be of much usefulness to reference librarians. It records the important subject bibliographies used in Mr. W. S. Bisbee's course in advanced bibliography in the New York State Library School. The D. C. is followed in the arrangement of the list.

THE WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for January has a good special list (5 p.) on South Africa and the Transvaal war.

CHANGED TITLES.

One of Henty's stories for boys appears under two titles: "A chapter of adventures; or, through the bombardment of Alexandria," published by Blackie & Son, London, and Scribner's Sons, New York, in 1890, also published by A. L. Burt (no date), as "The young midshipman; a story of the bombardment of Alexandria." The chapters correspond, but not the paging, and there is only one illustration in Burt's edition, while Scribner's has six.

MARY MEDLICOTT.

"A tangled web," by Walter Raymond (N. Y., Doubleday (McClure) was published in England under the title "No soul above money."

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress:

- Adams, Richard Calmit (A Delaware Indian legend);
- Bailey, Frederic William, *ed.* (Early Connecticut marriages);
- Barker, Lewellys Franklin (The nervous system);
- Barnes, Martha McCulloch (For grace and pleasure);
- Barrington, Paul Jones (Gems of knowledge);
- Berlitz, Maximilian Delphinus (Spanish with or without a master);
- Bridgman, Raymond Landon (The master idea);
- Bullitt, William Grigsby (Review of the Constitution of the United States);
- Cartland, John Henry (Ten years at Pemaquid);
- Clarke, Addison Harry (Architects' handbook on cements);
- Clayton, Victoria Virginia (White and black under the old regime);
- Cooney, Myron Angelo, *ed.* (St. Agnes' cemetery);
- Donly, Joseph Thorn (A concise summary of the principles and decisions relating to realty practice in Pennsylvania);
- Elliott, Arthur Henry, and Ferguson, George A. (A system of instruction in qualitative chemical analysis);
- Galloway, Beverly Thomas (Commercial violet culture);
- Greeley, Arthur Philip (Foreign patent and trade-mark laws);
- Guggenberger, Anthony (A general history of the Christian era);
- Hale, William Thomas (The backward trail);
- Hoyt, Deristhe Levinte (Barbara's heritage);
- Hurll, Estelle May (Raphael: a collection of fifteen pictures and a portrait of the painter);
- Jeffers, Eliakine Tupper (Shortest road to Caesar);
- Johnson, Edward Augustus (History of negro soldiers in the Spanish-American war);
- Jones, William Russell (Abstract of lectures on chemistry);
- Ledin, Charles Jacob (Bibelskatekes för bibelskolor);
- Leete, Charles Henry (Exercises in geography, 1st series);
- Lindberg, Peter August (Adam; en berättelse);
- Lord, William Sinclair, *comp.* (The best short poems of the nineteenth century);
- Maginnis, Charles Donagh (Pen drawing);
- Malsbary, George Elmer (Practice of medicine);
- Merriman, Effie Woodward (A queer dilemma and other stories);
- Peyser, Mark Wallace (Manual of the physics of physiology);
- Pierce, Ella Maria (First steps in arithmetic);

Plympton, Almira George (A flower of the wilderness);

Rishell, Charles Wesley (The foundations of the Christian faith);

Severance, Frank Hayward (Old trails on the Niagara frontier);

Spencer, Edward Whiton (The elements of commercial law);

Straker, David Augustus (Compendium of evidence);

Strang, Lewis Clinton (Famous actresses of the day in America);

Thompson, Elmer Ellsworth (Bible study and marking systematized);

Traub, Peter Edward (Spanish pronunciation and accent);

Vincent, Elizabeth Carter (The Madonna in legend and history).

The following are supplied by Harvard University Library:

Apgar, Austin Craig (Pocket key of the birds of the Northern U. S.);

Bell, Herbert Charles (History of Leitersburg district, Washington county, Md.);

Dorland, William Alexander Newman (American pocket medical dictionary);

Hall, John Lincoln (Tables of squares);

Snow, Walter Bradlee (Steam-boiler practice);

Voorhees, Gardner Tufts (Indicating the refrigerating machine);

Wait, William Henry (Lysias: ten selected orations, edited with introduction).

Bibliography.

BETZ, L. P. La littérature comparée: essai bibliographique; introd. par J. Texte. Strasbourg, Karl J. Trübner, 1900. 24 + 123 p. 8°. 4 m.

BIBLIOGRAPHY of progressive literature: descriptive catalogue comprising a complete and classified list of works relating to science, philosophy, religion, evolution, sociology, ethics, psychology, psychical science, thought transference, telepathy, psychometry, hypnotism, mesmerism, animal magnetism, spiritualism, theosophy, occultism, mysticism, magic, symbolism, astrology, palmistry, chiromancy, phrenology, physiognomy, metaphysics, Christian science, mind cure, massage, hydrophathy, and physical culture. N. Y., New Epoch Pub. Co., 1899. '99. 4 + 96 p. O. 25 c.

CELICHOWSKI, Z. Polskie indeksy Książek zakazanych, rozprawa bibliograficzna. Krakow, 1899. 8°.

An account of three Polish indexes to prohibited books, printed by the Bishops in 1603, 1604, and 1617. Most of the books listed in these old records are to-day quite unknown to bibliographers. *Centralblatt f. Bibliotheksw.*

CRISPO-MONCADA, C. I codici arabi: nuovo fondo della biblioteca Vaticana, descritti. Palermo, Virzi, 1900. 7 + 104 p. 8°.

Describes 145 Arabic codexes.

GEOGRAPHY. Elamoff, E. Catalog of articles on geography, 1887-1897. St. Petersburg, 1898. 10 p. O. [In Russian.]

Devoted mainly to analytical entries of papers printed in the "Memoirs of geography," 1887-97, published by the Imperial Geographical Society of St. Petersburg. The subjects cover "Reports and articles on navigation and hydrography classified for naval and commercial vessels," meteorology and hydrography; astronomy, geodesy, triangulation; magnetism and compass deviation; lighthouse service, etc.

INDIA. Whiteway, R. S. Rise of the Portuguese power in India, 1497-1550. London, Constable, 1899. 374 p. 8°, net, 15 s.

Incl. bibliography, p. 9-16.

Legal Bibliography, published by the Boston Book Co., begins a new series with the issue for January, 1900. Hereafter it will be published quarterly, and its bibliographical character will be strengthened; it will aim to give full record of current law literature, and occasional special bibliographical articles. The January number deals chiefly with law books of 1899.

LOUVAIN: Université catholique. Bibliographie, 1834-1900. Louvain, Ch. Peeters, 1900. il. 8°. 5 fr.

MONUMENTA PALEOGRAPHICA SACRA. Atlante paleografico-artistico: composto sui manoscritti esposti nel 1898 in Torino alla Mostra d'Arte Sacra. Pubblicato dalla R. Deputazione di Storia Patria delle antiche Provincie e della Lombardia, per cura di Francesco Carta, Carlo Cipolla, e Carlo Frati. 120 tavole in-fol., con testo esplicativo. Torino, Fratelli Bocca. 120 l.

The 120 plates of this work contain 134 reproductions of specimen leaves of ancient mss. About half of them have been chosen for their paleographical value, the other half for their artistic worth. The collection attracted great attention when it was exhibited at Turin in 1898. Care has been taken not to reproduce documents of which samples have been published before. Among the mss. of note may be mentioned a palimpsest of Cicero "pro M. Tullio," one written in an Irish hand of the eighth century, and four dated mss. prior to the 12th century. The fact that most of the mss. are written in the Italian hands and that many of them come from small and almost inaccessible libraries should make the collection of value, while its small price should commend it to even those libraries whose funds for this purpose are scanty. The edition is limited to 200 copies.

W. W. B.

RAFFETY, Frank W. Books worth reading: a plea for the best and an essay towards selection, with short introductions to many of the world's great authors. N. Y., E. P. Dutton & Co., 1899. 7 + 174 p. 12°.

This book, "an attempt at collecting, and in some respects adding to, what has been said upon the subject of the choice of books," is divided in two parts. Part 1, the author claims, follows the "beaten track" in books on books and reading; part 2, the "original" part and more than half the volume, gives a list of "one hundred famous books" and a "short introduction to about 80 books from that list." What the author says about books worth reading makes a very small book. It would be better were it still smaller. Much that is said in the first part is repeated in the second, and often in the same words. The author's manner of dealing with writers other than English is thus described: "Of the ancients, and of the foreign modern writers, I only speak through translations, as this is the mode by which the vast majority must hold communication with them; and I confine myself to indicating those translations which are generally considered the best." The chief use of the book in libraries is in indicating the best translations.

It is evident throughout that the author is not sure of his ground. He "ventures" to say, and gravely tells that "much information would doubtless be obtained from" such a book. It is the business of a man to *know* whether a book contains "much information" or not when he undertakes to tell the world of "books worth reading." S: H. R.

RICHARDSON, C. F. The choice of books. N. Y., Dutton, [1900.] 208 p. D. \$1.25.

A new edition, uniform in style with Raffety's "Books worth reading." The index should serve, in a measure, as a guide to literary quotations, many of which are cited.

INDEXES.

DIETRICH, F. Bibliographie der deutschen Zeitschriften-Litteratur, mit Einschluss von Sammelwerken und Zeitungen. Band 4: Alphabetisches nach Schlagworten sachlich geordnetes Verzeichnis von Aufsätzen die während der Monate Januar bis Juni, 1899, in über 900 zumeist wissenschaftlichen Zeitschriften Sammelwerken und Zeitungen deutscher Zunge erschienen sind, mit Autoren-Register. Leipzig, Felix Dietrich, 1899. 326 p. Q. 15 m.

The fourth part of the index to German periodical literature is the first semi-annual issue covering January to June, 1899. The list of periodicals indexed has been greatly augmented and now includes upwards of 900 separate publications. The new features are an index to the

important articles and "leaders" in the representative daily newspapers, and the inclusion of upwards of 125 German medical periodicals. The work of indexing the medical periodicals has been undertaken by Dr. E. Roth, well known for his contributions to bibliography in the *Anatomischer Anzeiger* and other leading medical journals. Arthur L. Jellinck and M. Grolig have also volunteered their assistance.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

The following are from the "Catalogue of title entries," etc., issued by the Register of Copyright, Library of Congress.

Bradley, Mrs. Julia M., pseud. of James Bethuel Smiley. "Modern manners." 21:811 (D. 21, '99).

Connor, Ralph, pseud. of Charles William Gordon. "The sky pilot: a tale of the foothills." 22:5 (Ja. 4).

"A Dominican father," pseud. of Charles Hyacinthe McKenna. "The angelic guide." 21:806 (D. 21, '99).

Eric, Allan; also "Junior partner," pseud. of Charles W. and Lillian S. Willis. "Montreal by way of Chazy and down the St. Lawrence river to Quebec." 22:49 (Ja. 11).

"Faralone," pseud. of Elizabeth A. Smith. "Stories of childhood." 21:811 (D. 21, '99).

Fischer, Grete, pseud. of Konrad Schaefer. "Agnes Goodmaid;" "A mystery explained;" "On the waves of ether sphere." 21:811 (D. 21, '99).

"Ye antient buriall place of New London, Conn.," is by Edward Prentiss. 22:98 (Ja. 18).

"Army and navy of the United States, 1776-1898," pts. 18, 19, is by William Walton, and others. 22:49 (Ja. 11).

"Our islands and their people as seen with camera and pencil," pt. 3, is ed. by William S. Bryan. 22:92 (Ja. 18).

"Skiascopy: a treatise on the shadow test," is by G. A. Rogers. 21:811 (D. 21, '99).

The following are supplied by the Catalogue Department, Library of Congress.

Alwyn, Theos, pseud. for Lewis F. Cummings, "The psychic stream," 1899.

Jonsson, Ivar, pseud. for C. A. Tibbetts, "The department clerk."

"Jorlocks," pseud. for James Albert Garland, jr., "The private stable."

Paget, R. L., pseud. for Frederic Lawrence Knowles, "The poetry of American wit and humor."

Z., Z., pseud. for Louise Doissy, "A business venture in Los Angeles."

"Rudyard Kipling, 1899," is by Jesse Lynch Williams.



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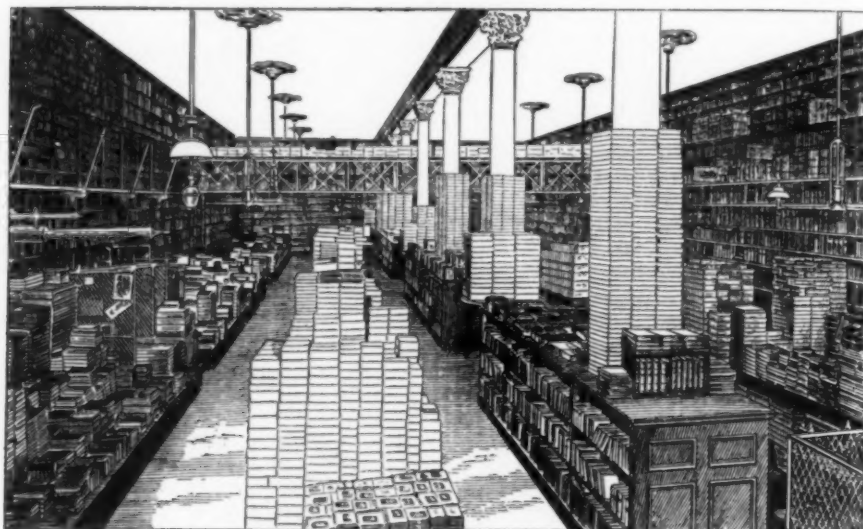
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Americus Vesputius. A Critical and Documentary Review of Two Recent English Books Concerning that Navigator. By HENRY HARRISSE. Foolscap 4to, pp. 68, \$3 net. 250 copies only printed.

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